ラブのな日記

担当「次のネタは何にしましょうかね」
野中「う〜ん、ネタねえ‥‥あ！」
担当「何か思いついた？」
野中「いや‥‥なんかさ、
お腹減ってない？ ご飯まだなんだよね」
担当「‥‥‥‥いえ、さっき食べたばっかりで」
野中「じゃ、食べないで考えるか‥‥」
担当「すみません‥‥」

● 翌日

野中「何かおもしろいネタないかな〜」
担当「そんなモン、そうそうないですからねえ」
野中「ま、そりゃそうだよねえ」
担当「あ！」
野中「え‥‥何かあるの？」
担当「いえ‥‥そういえば僕、今日はお腹ペコペコです！
どっか食べに行きますか！」
野中「いや、さっきチャーハン食べたんだよね‥‥」
担当「あ、そうですか‥‥」

● 翌々日

担当「そろそろ何かネタ決めないとマズイですよ？」
野中「わかってるけどさ、そんなカンタンには‥‥あ!!」
担当「何？ 何かすごいネタ思いついたんですか？」
野中「いや‥‥オレ今日は腹減ってるんだけど」
担当「え!? 僕もですよ!! やっと一致しましたね!!」
野中「ようやくだなあ」
担当「ええ！ じゃ、さっそく食べに行きましょう!!
コレでアイデアも出ますよ！」

● 食事の後、くつろぐ二人

担当「お腹いっぱいですね‥‥」
野中「うん‥‥あのさ‥‥」
担当「何です？」
野中「お腹いっぱいになったら、
今度は眠くなっちゃったんだけど‥‥」
担当「‥‥僕もです」

——という過酷な打ち合わせのもと、
このマンガは産み出されております。

special thanks Keisuke Furusawa (BANDAI)
カバーデザイン→シマダヒデアキ

さきがけ
Shonen Magazine Comics

魁!! クロマティ高校

14

2005 KODANSHA

野中英次

The Fight
Fight The Power
暗闇でドッキリ
I feel that old feeling
刑事編
Final Cut
Everyday
NEAT NEAT NEAT
Bad Medicine
Eat It
Snow White & The Five Men
Winter
Capital Punishment
Universally Speaking
New Laws
Brilliant Mistake
In Your Eyes
Good Enough
Abduction
DEAD OR ALIVE

KCM3561
KC MAGAZINE

魁!! クロマティ高校
14
—刑事編—
野中英次

講談社

9784063635614

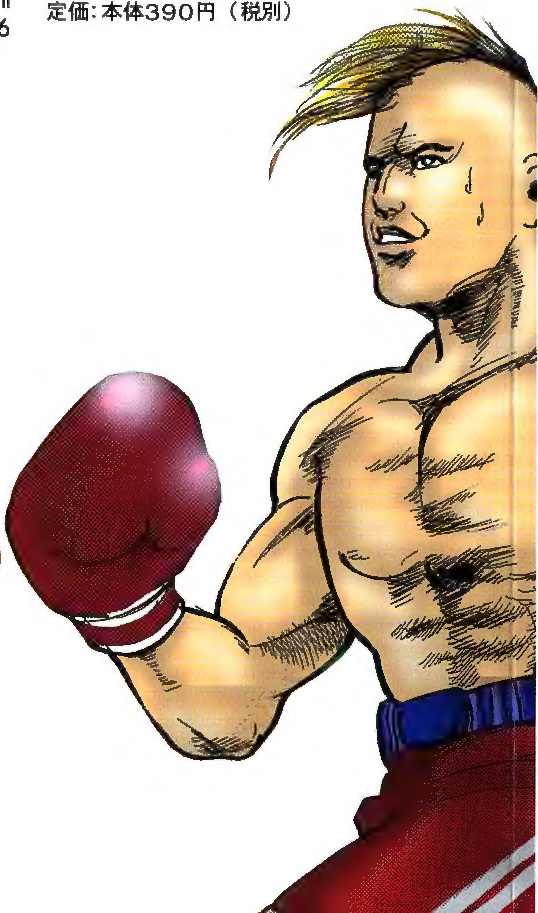
雑誌 42263-61

ISBN4-06-363561-9

C9979 ¥390E (0)

講談社
定価:本体390円（税別）

1929979003906



オレ達の明日はどっち——？

Shonen Magazine Comics

魁!!
クロマティ高校
14
刑事編
野中英次

魁!!クロマティ高校14 刑事編

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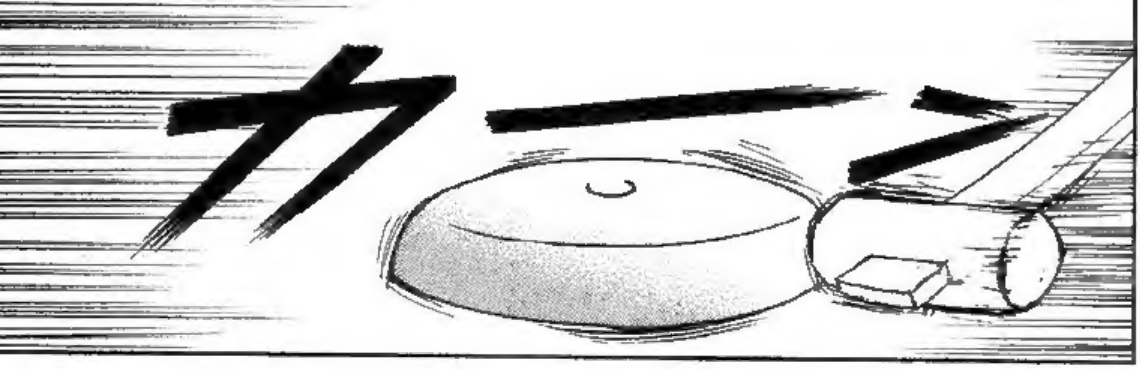
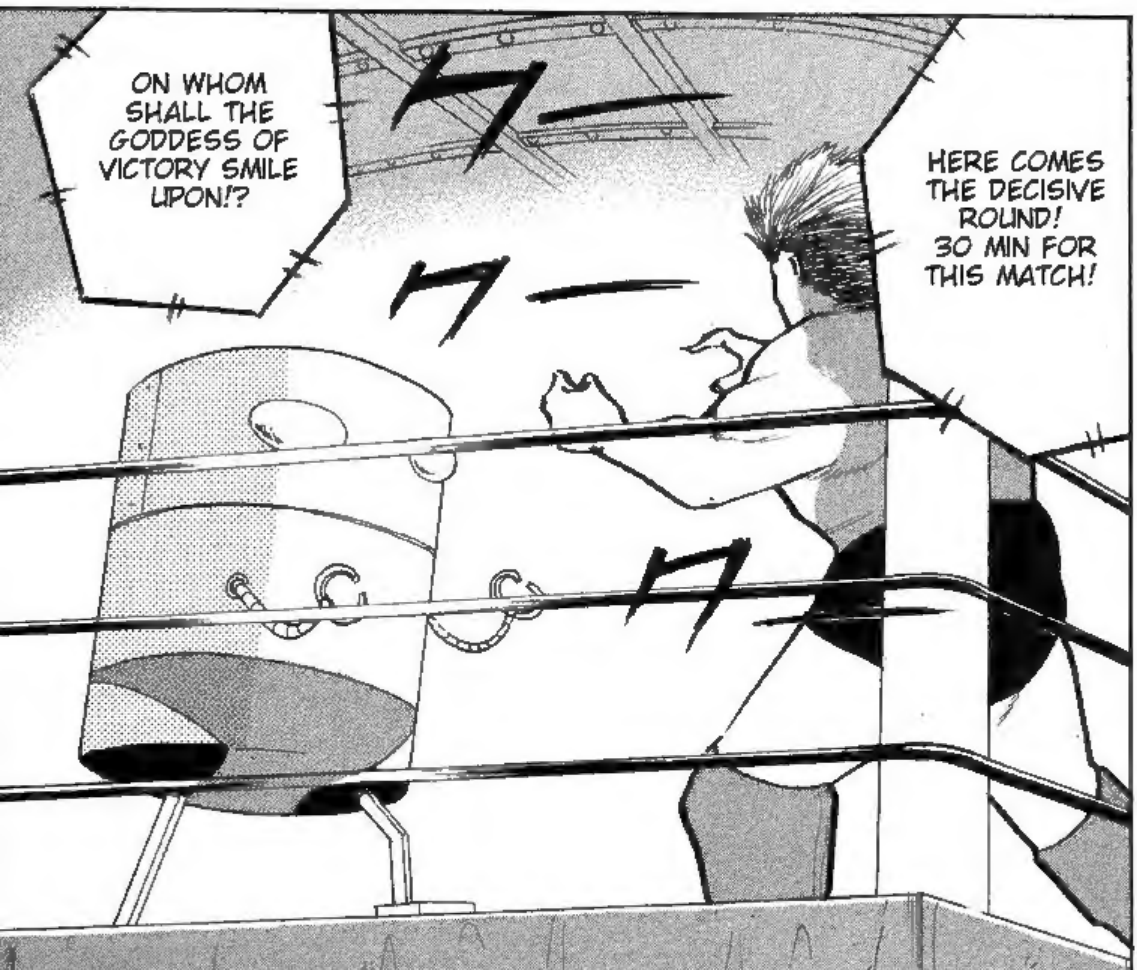
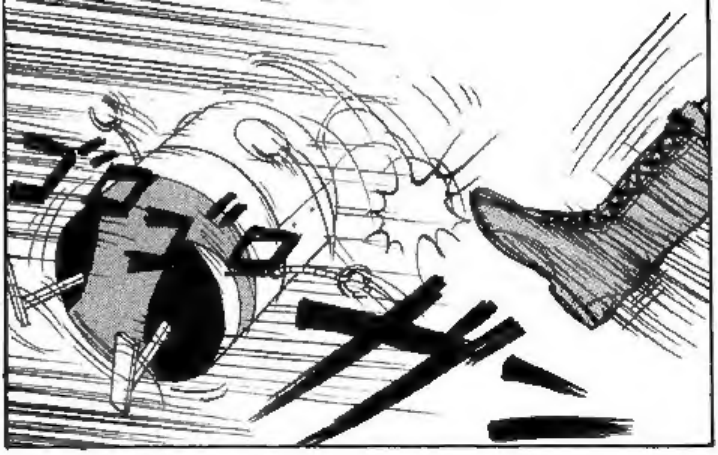


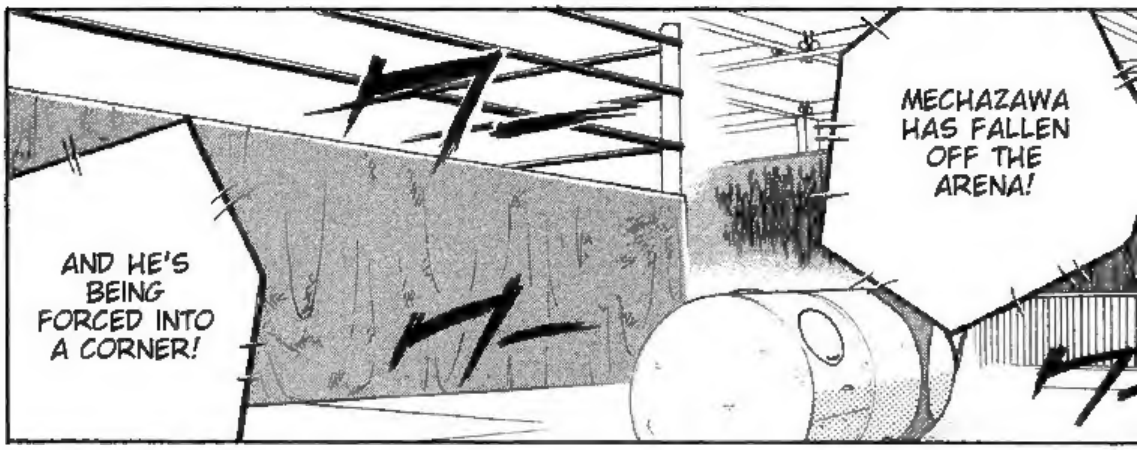


第267話 The Fight

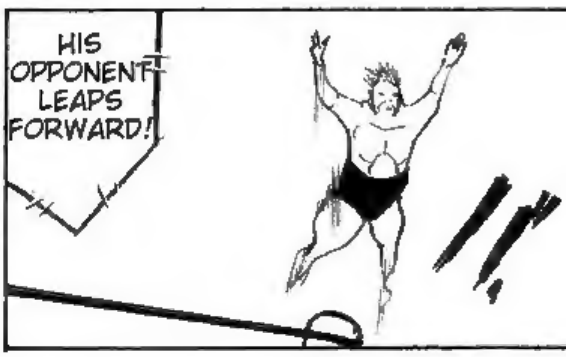
OOORYAAAA
!!!
ハァ
はぁ
はぁ

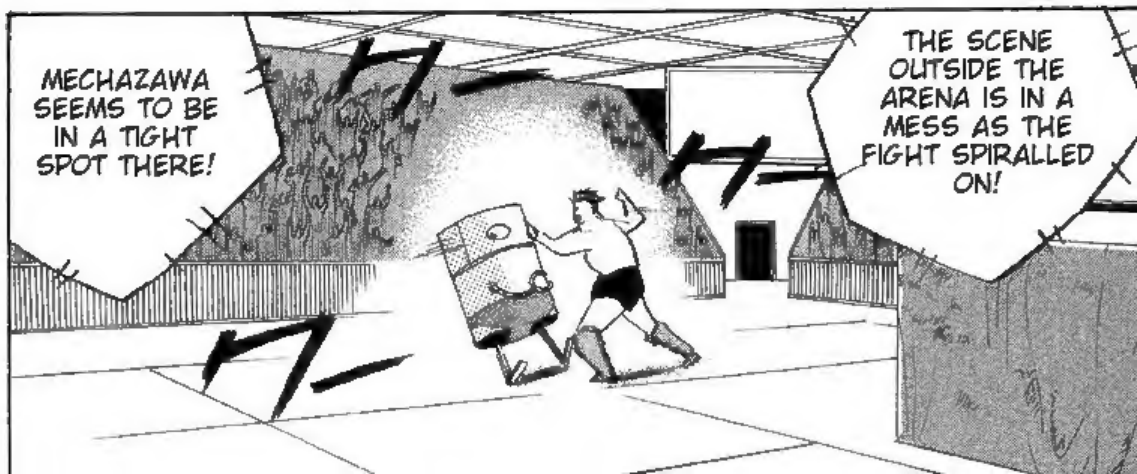
!?
ガズ
ス
THE MOVE SEEMS TO BE VERY EFFECTIVE! MECHAZAWA IS WRITHING IN PAIN ON THE FLOOR!
MECHAZAWA WAS TRIPPED!
OH! HE'S BEING RIDDEN LIKE A HORSE! AND HERE COMES THE PUNCH!
カン
カン
カン
...TSK.
ROPE BREAK!
STOP! STOP!


ゴロゴロ
ゴーン


AND HE'S BEING FORCED INTO A CORNER!
MECHAZAWA HAS FALLEN OFF THE ARENA!

ズガ

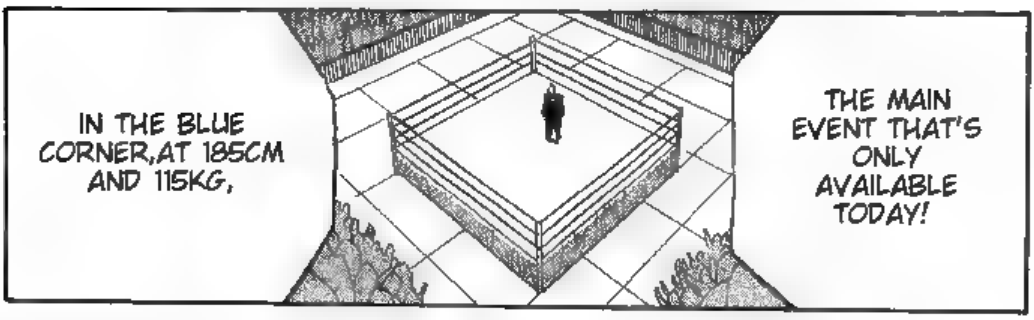

HIS OPPONENT LEAPS FORWARD!

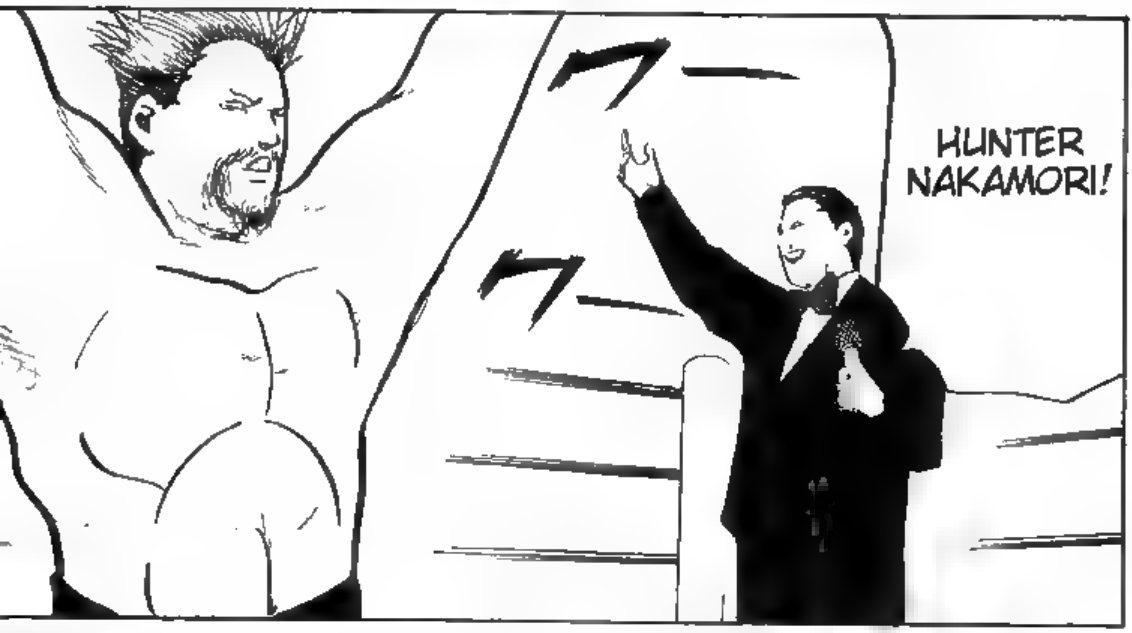

MECHAZAWA SEEMS TO BE IN A TIGHT SPOT THERE!
THE SCENE OUTSIDE THE ARENA IS IN A MESS AS THE FIGHT SPIRALLED ON!

A BEAUTIFUL COUNTER-ATTACK FROM MECHAZAWA!
AND THE FIGHT GOES ON!
AND IT'S GETTING WORSE! IS THE REFEREE NOT GOING TO INTERVENE!?
WHAT A MESS! SUCH OUTRIGHT DISREGARD OF THE RULES! DEAR LORD, THIS CAN NO LONGER BE CONSIDERED A MATCH!
AND THERE GOES THE BELL!
OUT OF RING FOR BOTH OF THEM!
G-GOT IT!
STOP THE FIGHT AT ONCE!

5 MIN 40 SEC IN AND BOTH WERE DECLARED TO BE OUT OF THE RING.

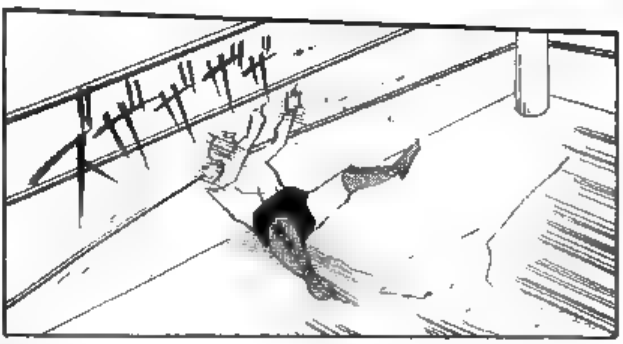
第268話 Fight The Power





GORILLA!!
DORYAAAA !!!

UGH...



UUOOOO
!!!

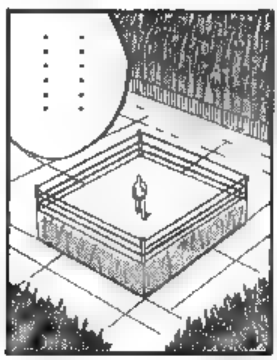
NO
!!
NO
!!
GIVE UP?
ARE YOU
GONNA
GIVE UP?

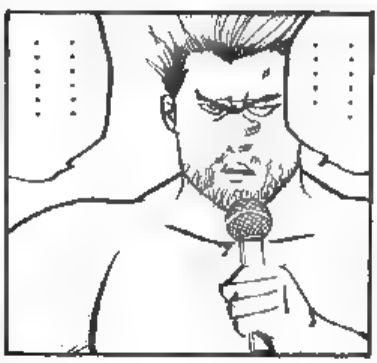
GAAAAAAHH
!!!

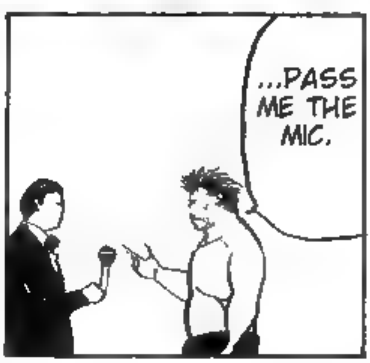
ガ"

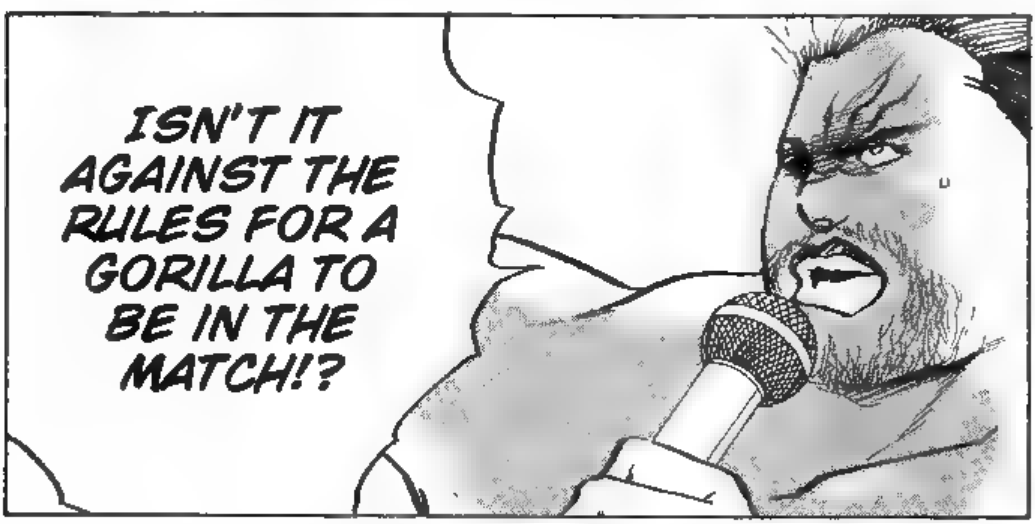
...
...SHIT!
UGH
ビタン
HOW'S THIS!?
ガ"
...
バ"

WHOA, THE GORILLA'S LOSING HIS BALANCE!
SAVED BY THE BELL!
THE GORILLA SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN K.O.'D AFTER BEING ATTACKED WITH THE CHAIR!
カンカン
カーン
HUH?
ポン
カーン
WHA-WHAT DID YOU SAY...!?
THE GORILLA WINS!
USING OF OBJECTS AS WEAPONS IS AGAINST THE RULES!



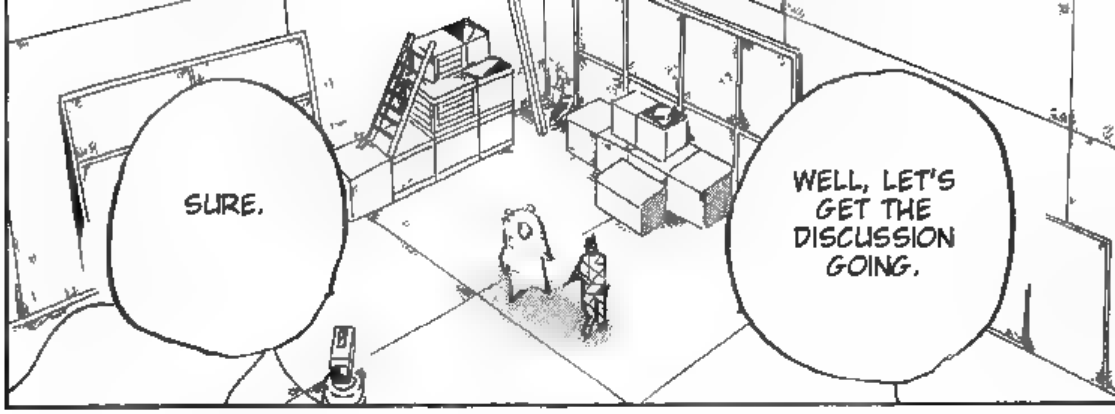




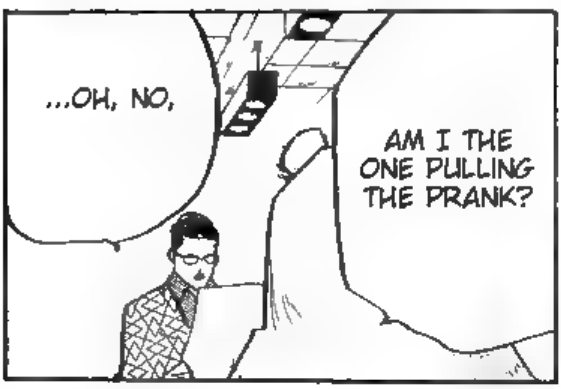


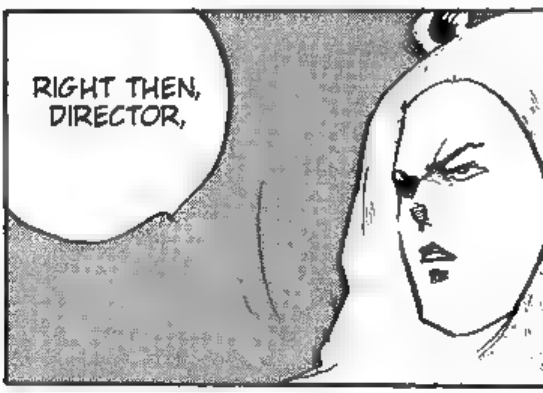
WELL, THAT'S TRUE.

CH269.3 CANDIDNESS IN THE DARK


SURE.
WELL, LET'S GET THE DISCUSSION GOING.

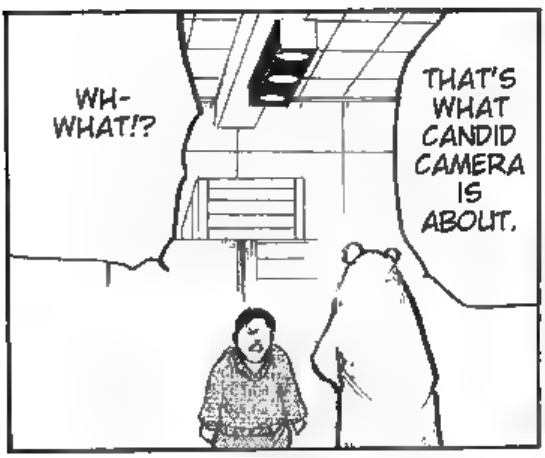
JUST WATCH QUIETLY FROM THE SIDE, YEAH?
some kid here on a field trip
AH! SO THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE HERE FOR TODAY?


...OH, NO,
AM I THE ONE PULLING THE PRANK?


RIGHT THEN, DIRECTOR,

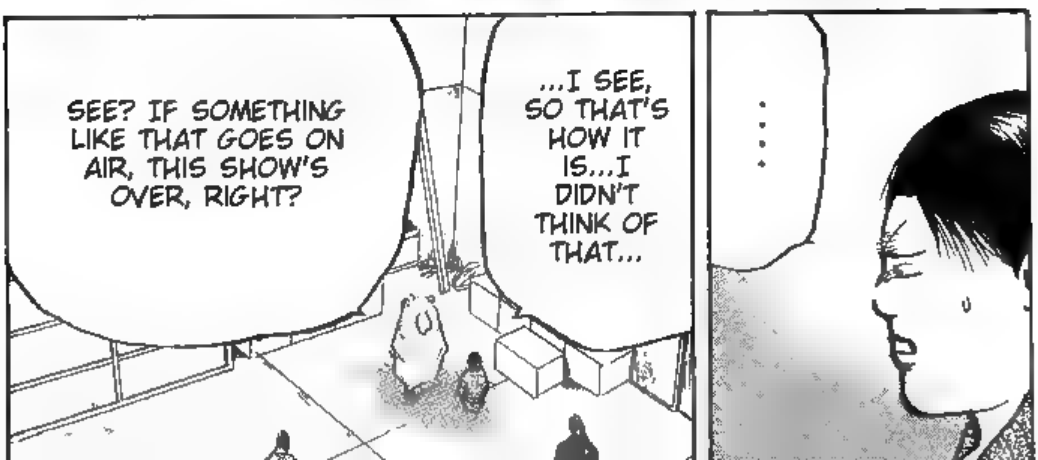
WHA- WAIT A MOMENT, POOTAN!
I SEE, I'M THE MARK THIS TIME...
THIS TIME YOU'LL BE THE ONE TO GET PLAYED ON.

WHY IS THE TARGET HERE AS PART OF THE DISCUSSION AS WELL? THAT WAY YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FALL FOR IT RIGHT!?
WHAT IS IT?


WH-WHAT!?
THAT'S WHAT CANDID CAMERA IS ABOUT.

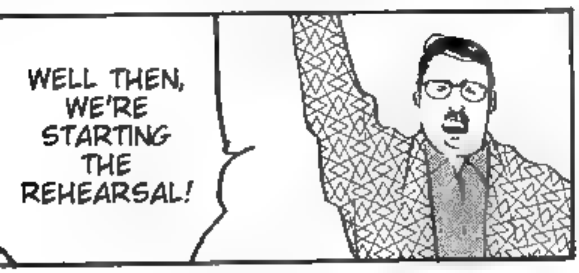
NO,

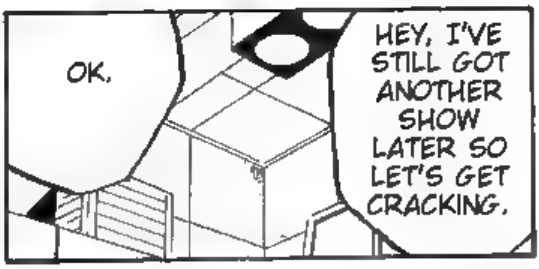
IF SAY, I GOT TOO SHOCKED BY THE PRANK AND GOT A HEART ATTACK, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? IT'LL BE A DISASTER AND NOT AN ENTERTAINMENT ANYMORE.
LISTEN UP,


SEE? IF SOMETHING LIKE THAT GOES ON AIR, THIS SHOW'S OVER, RIGHT?
...I SEE, SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...I DIDN'T THINK OF THAT...
....

I SEE...I STILL HAVE MUCH TO LEARN...I'LL TAKE NOTE IN THE FUTURE...
THAT IS OUR JOB.
ENSURING THAT THE AUDIENCE ARE ABLE TO ENJOY THE SHOW IN PEACE.
IN SUMMARY... "POOTAN IS WATCHING AT HOME WHEN TWO UNKNOWN DELINQUENTS JUMPED OUT OF THE CLOSET AND GAVE YOU A SHOCK"...
OK, SO WHAT'S THE GAG?
WELL, THAT WAY IT'S EASIER FOR THE AUDIENCE TO UNDERSTAND.
SOUNDS REALLY SIMPLISTIC.
. . . . . .
I SEE.
'SUP.
...AND HERE ARE THE DELINQUENTS.

THAT KIND OF THINGS DOESN'T MATTER!
YOU DON'T KNOW EACH OTHER?
NOPE.
ARE YOU TWO FRIENDS?

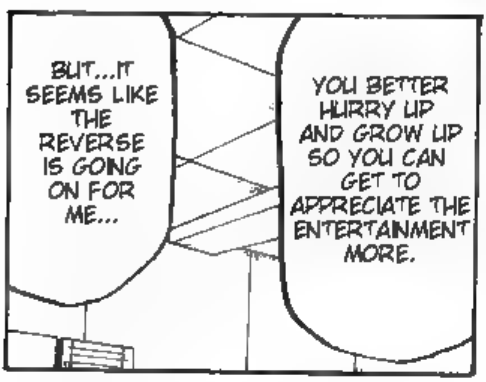

WELL THEN, WE'RE STARTING THE REHEARSAL!

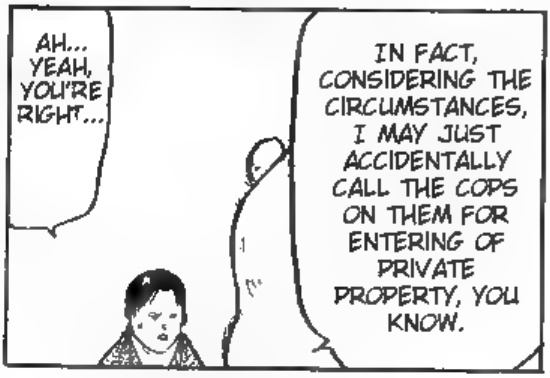

OK.
HEY, I'VE STILL GOT ANOTHER SHOW LATER SO LET'S GET CRACKING.

EVEN HIS HOME IS FAKE!?
HMM...
HAVE A SEAT THERE WHILE DRINKING TEA.

NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...I KNOW THAT THERE'S BOUND TO BE SETS AND PROPS FOR TV SHOWS, BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT EVEN THE HOUSE TO LIKE THAT TOO...
AND MY ROOM'S MESSY TOO...
OF COURSE. IT'LL BE TROUBLE-SOME IF IT'S REALLY MY HOUSE, ISN'T IT.

EVEN IF IT'S THE BROADCASTING STATION, IT'LL BE AN INCONVENIENCE FOR ME TO SIMPLY LET MYSELF BE FILMED IN MY PRIVATE ENVIRONMENT WHILE LETTING UNKNOWN DELINQUENTS TO INTRUDE UPON MY PLACE.
LOOKS LIKE YOU STILL DON'T FULLY GET IT YET.

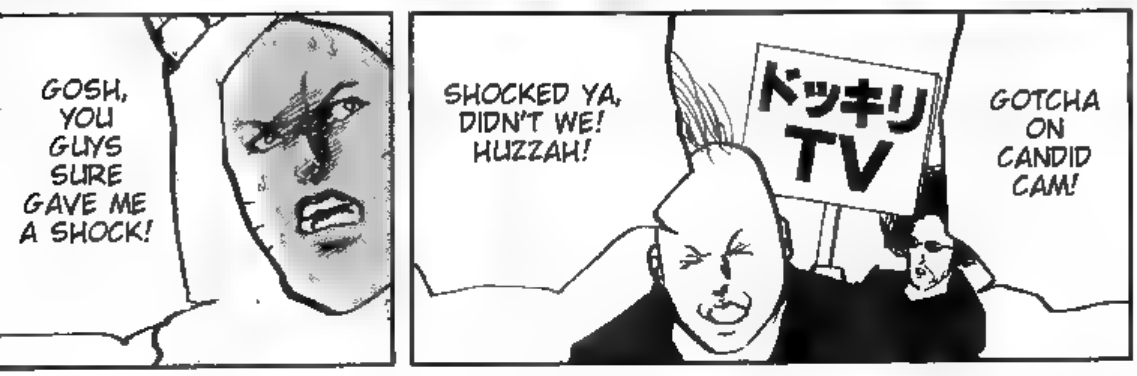

BUT...IT SEEMS LIKE THE REVERSE IS GOING ON FOR ME...
YOU BETTER HURRY UP AND GROW UP SO YOU CAN GET TO APPRECIATE THE ENTERTAINMENT MORE.


AH... YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT...
IN FACT, CONSIDERING THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I MAY JUST ACCIDENTALLY CALL THE COPS ON THEM FOR ENTERING OF PRIVATE PROPERTY, YOU KNOW.

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW ABOUT THESE THINGS ALREADY RIGHT!? NOW GET TO WORK!
NO, EVEN I TOO, AM SHOCKED BY THIS...DOESN'T THAT MAKE IT ALL FAKE...?

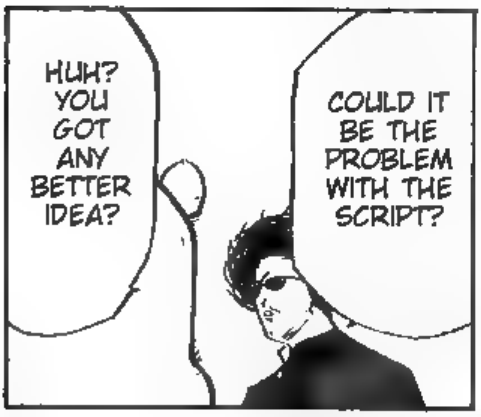
TV

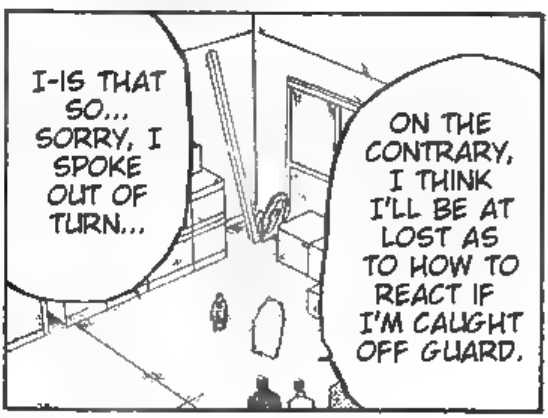
WHOA!!
ガタ
ガタ
ガタ

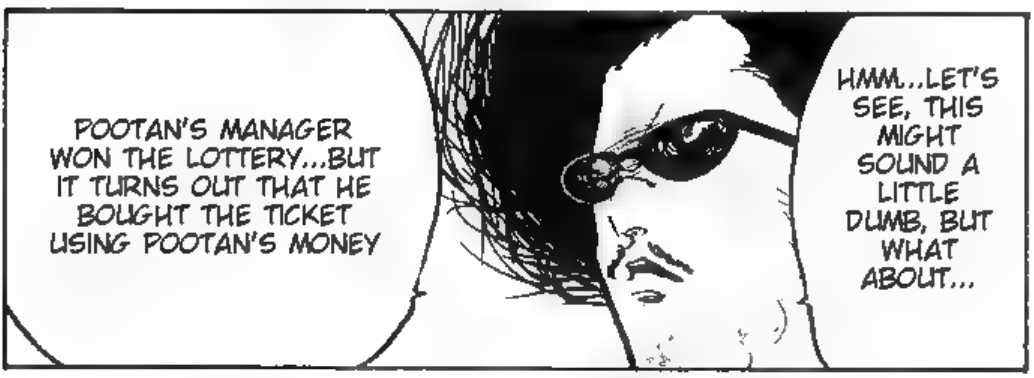

GOSH, YOU GUYS SURE GAVE ME A SHOCK!
SHOCKED YA, DIDN'T WE! HUZZAH!
ドッキリ TV
GOTCHA ON CANDID CAM!

...NOT BAD...
HOW'S IT?
RIGHT, CUT!
MY HEART ALMOST BURST...

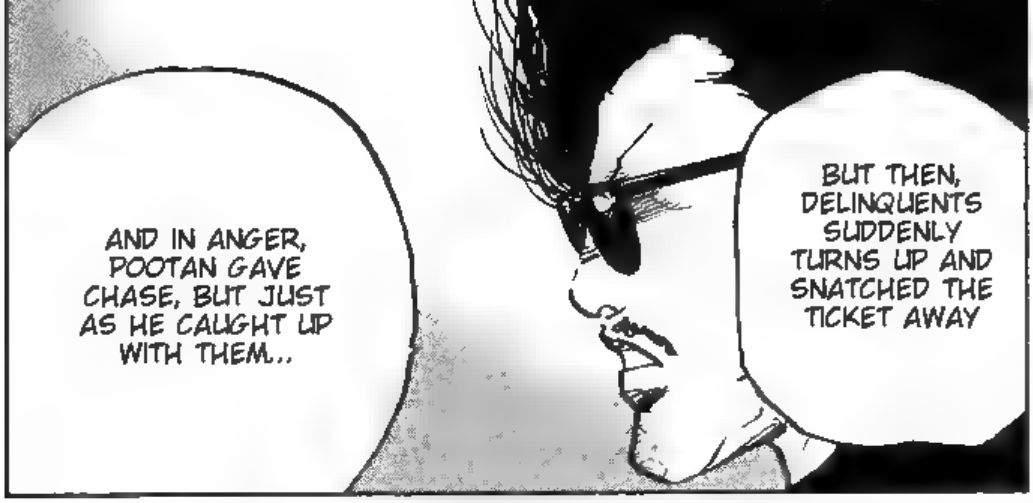
THAT'S NOT TRUE. I'M A PRO ALRIGHT. EVEN IF I KNEW WHAT TO EXPECT, I CAN STILL CONVINCINGLY ACT AS THOUGH I'M SHOCKED.
UMM, I GET THE REASON BEHIND IT BUT...I THINK... THAT IT LACKS REALISM SINCE POOTAN ALREADY KNEW WHAT TO EXPECT...

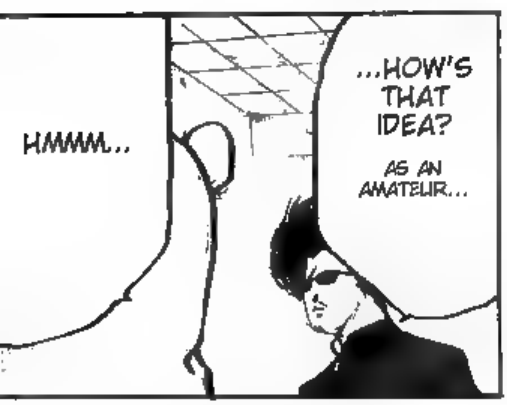

HUH? YOU GOT ANY BETTER IDEA?
COULD IT BE THE PROBLEM WITH THE SCRIPT?

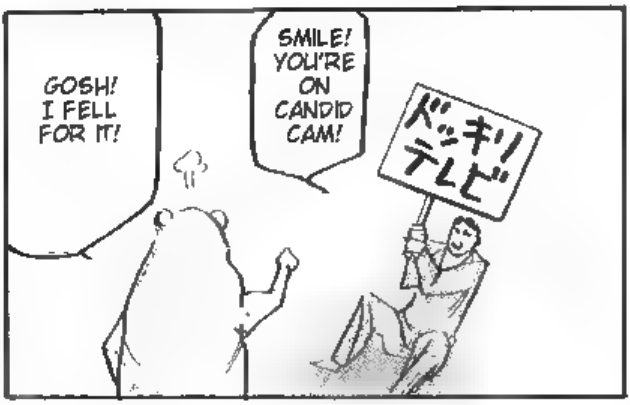

I-IS THAT SO... SORRY, I SPOKE OUT OF TURN...
ON THE CONTRARY, I THINK I'LL BE AT LOST AS TO HOW TO REACT IF I'M CAUGHT OFF GUARD.


POOTAN'S MANAGER WON THE LOTTERY...BUT IT TURNS OUT THAT HE BOUGHT THE TICKET USING POOTAN'S MONEY
HMM...LET'S SEE, THIS MIGHT SOUND A LITTLE DUMB, BUT WHAT ABOUT...

. . . . . .
AND BOTH BROKE INTO A FIGHT...

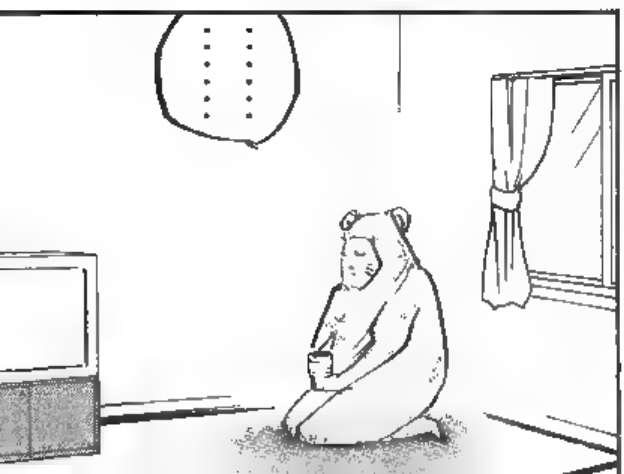

AND IN ANGER, POOTAN GAVE CHASE, BUT JUST AS HE CAUGHT UP WITH THEM...
BUT THEN, DELINQUENTS SUDDENLY TURNS UP AND SNATCHED THE TICKET AWAY


HMMM...
...HOW'S THAT IDEA?
AS AN AMATEUR...


GOSH! I FELL FOR IT!
SMILE! YOU'RE ON CANDID CAM!
ドッキリテレビ

AH...HOW ABOUT I PLAY THE PART OF YOUR MANAGER?
HOWEVER, MY MANAGER CAN'T ACT AT ALL.

THANKS.
PRETTY GOOD.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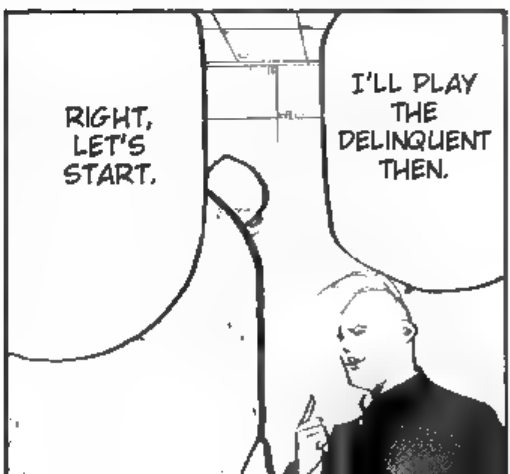
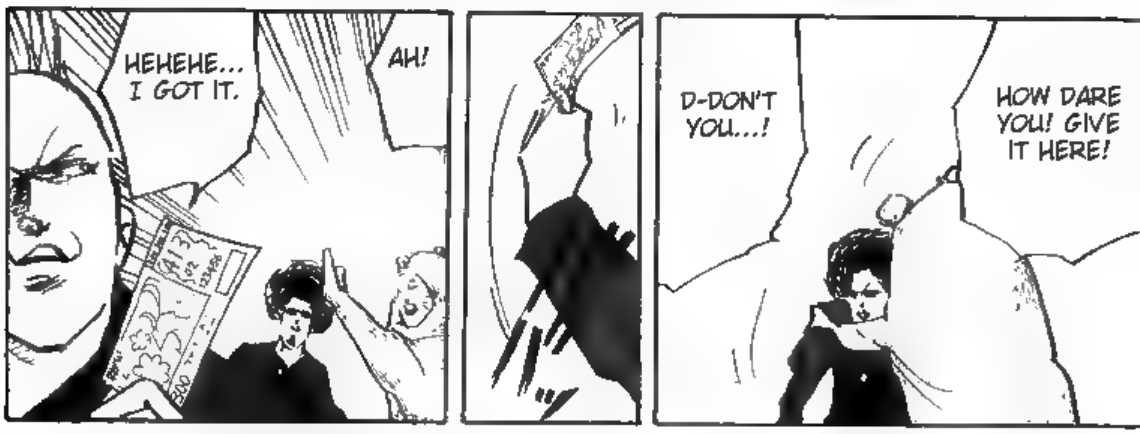
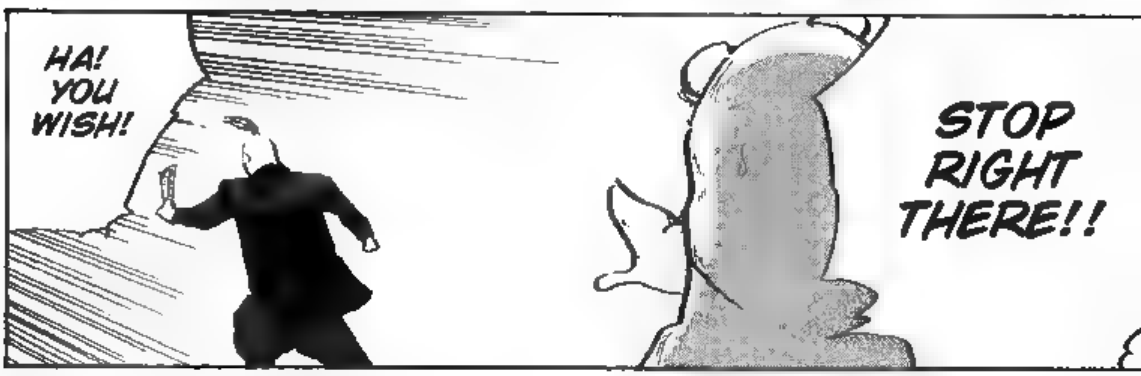
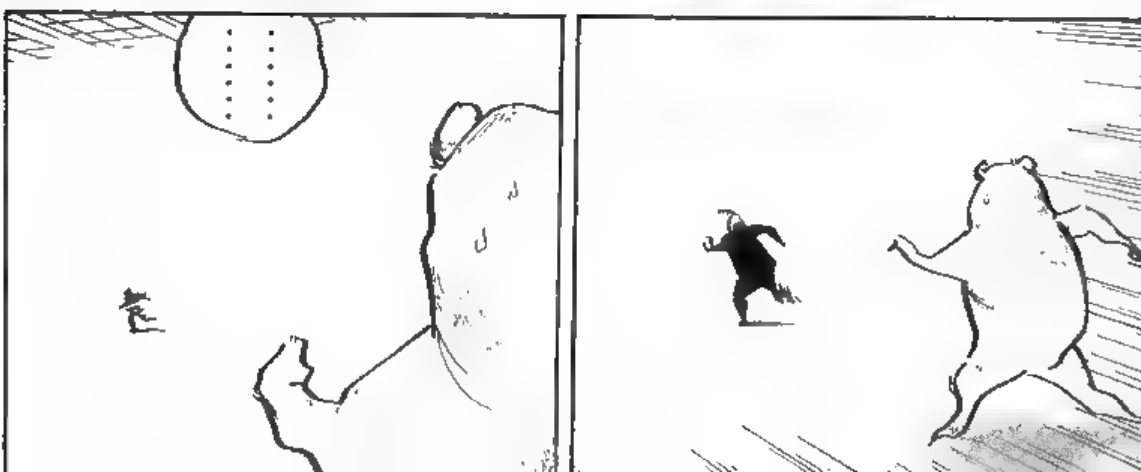

RIGHT, LET'S START.
I'LL PLAY THE DELINQUENT THEN.

EH...BUT I'M THE ONE WHO WENT TO BUY IT! AND I'M THE ONE WHO FOUND OUT THAT IT'S A WINNER, SO I'LL KEEP THE PRIZE.
HOLD IT, ISN'T THE TICKET BOUGHT USING MY MONEY?
WHA-WHAT?
HEY, POOTAN! I WON THAT LOTTERY! AND IT'S WITH A WINNING OF 10 MILLION YEN!


HEHEHE... I GOT IT.
AH!
D-DON'T YOU...!
HOW DARE YOU! GIVE IT HERE!


HA! YOU WISH!
STOP RIGHT THERE!!

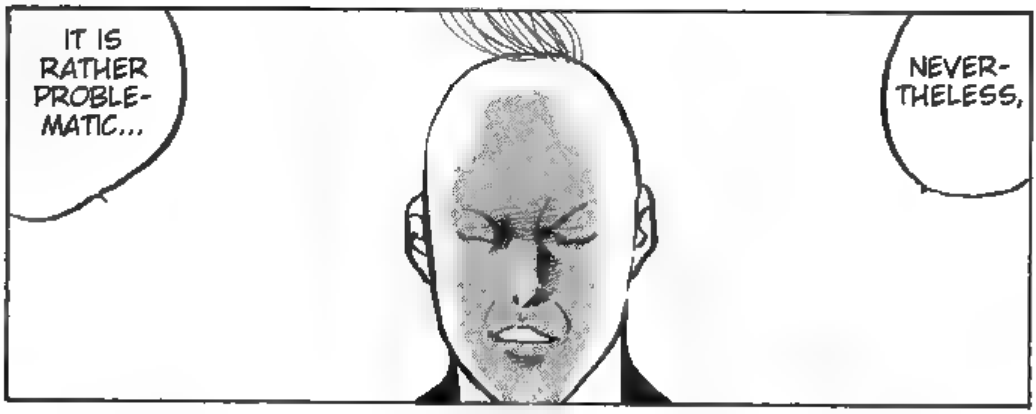

.....

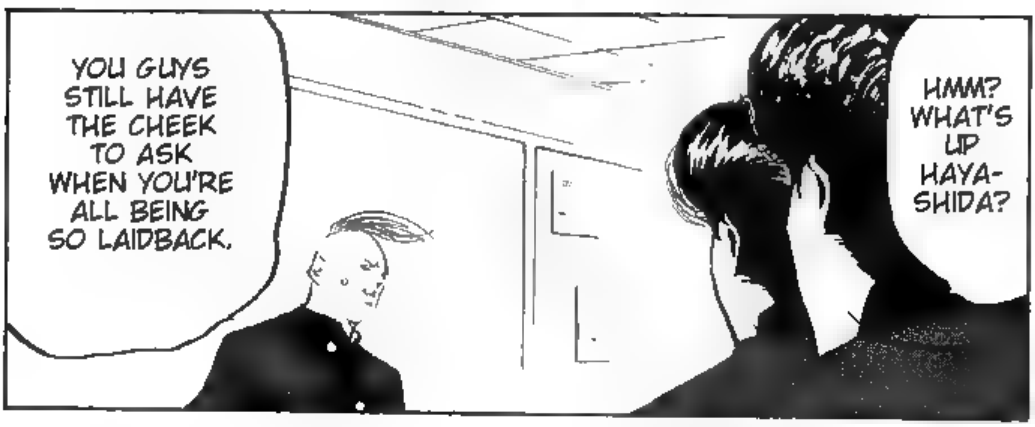
JEEZ...THAT'S WHY AMATEURS ARE... FORGET IT, HE'LL COME BACK EVENTUALLY.
HE... SEEMS TO HAVE REALLY RAN OFF.
SORRY... IT SEEMS LIKE HE DIDN'T QUITE GET THE SCRIPT.
HAH...HAH... THAT GUY... RUNNING OFF SO SERIOUSLY... NO WAY I CAN CATCH UP...!
NO WAY!
COULD HE HAVE TAKEN THE TICKET THINKING IT WAS REAL?
IS HE STILL NOT BACK YET?
2 HOURS LATER
TV
TV
...NO WAY, RIGHT... STILL IT'S PRETTY WORRYING ...
HE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT, COULD HE...
I DON'T MEAN TO CURSE HIM BUT...
AH... WELL, I UMM,
WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU RAN OFF TO!?
AH!
UMM....

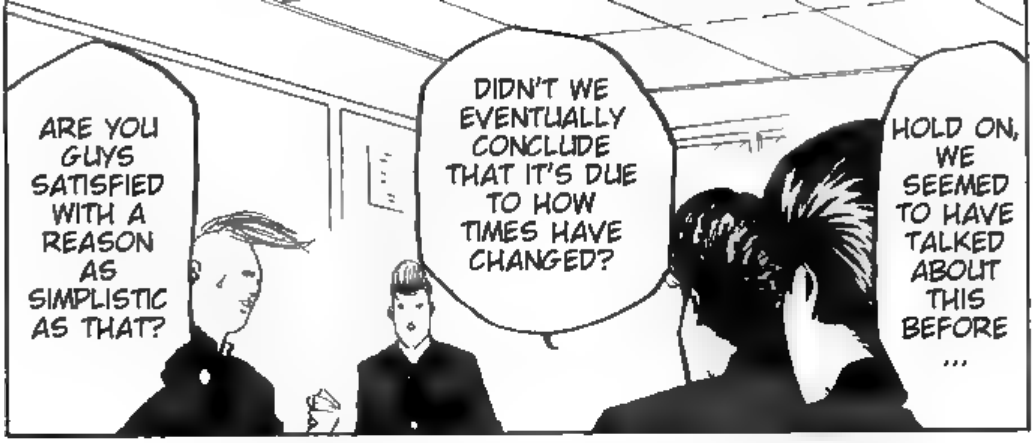
EH, ISN'T THAT FINE?

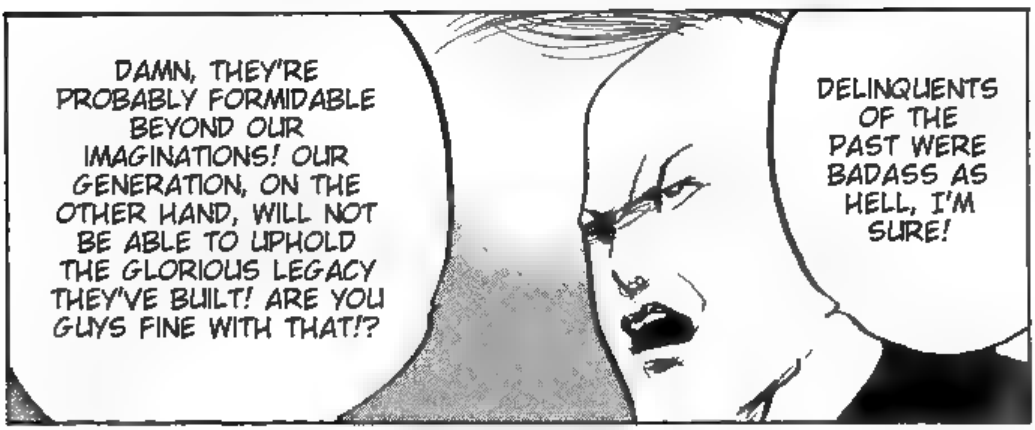
第270話

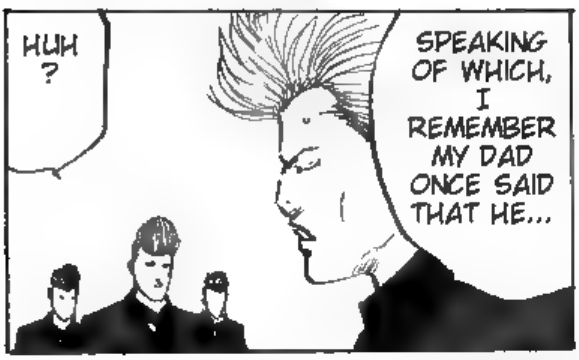
I feel that old feeling

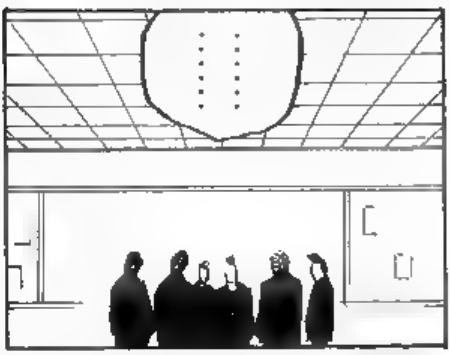





ARE YOU GUYS SATISFIED WITH A REASON AS SIMPLISTIC AS THAT?
DIDN'T WE EVENTUALLY CONCLUDE THAT IT'S DUE TO HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED?
HOLD ON, WE SEEMED TO HAVE TALKED ABOUT THIS BEFORE ...

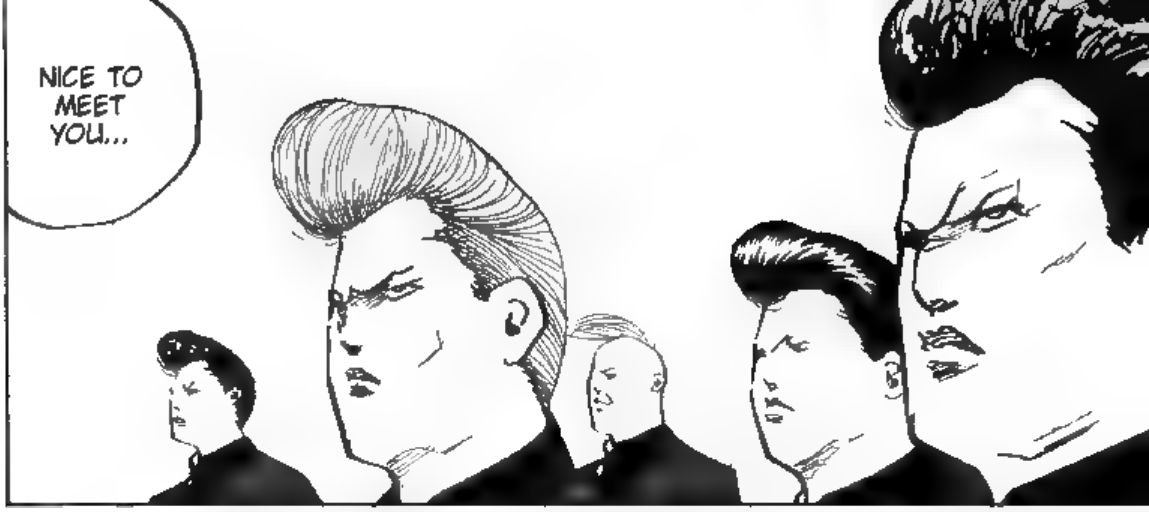

DAMN, THEY'RE PROBABLY FORMIDABLE BEYOND OUR IMAGINATIONS! OUR GENERATION, ON THE OTHER HAND, WILL NOT BE ABLE TO UPHOLD THE GLORIOUS LEGACY THEY'VE BUILT! ARE YOU GUYS FINE WITH THAT!?
DELINQUENTS OF THE PAST WERE BADASS AS HELL, I'M SURE!


HUH ?
SPEAKING OF WHICH, I REMEMBER MY DAD ONCE SAID THAT HE...


.....

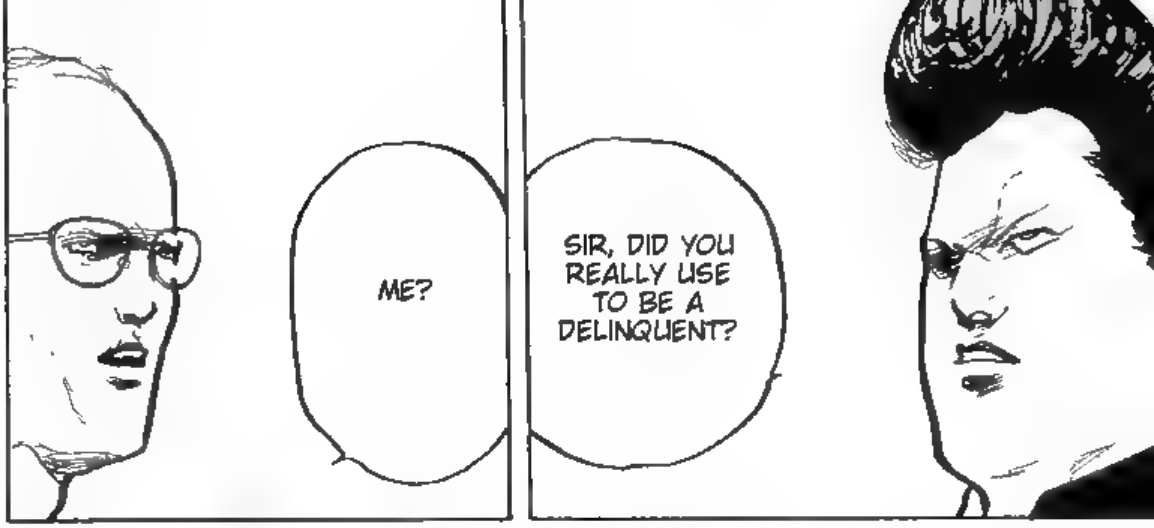
SOMETHING ABOUT BEING A TOUGH AS NAILS DELINQUENT WHO KICKED UP QUITE A BIT OF STORM IN SOCIETY...
USED TO BE PRETTY BADASS...

WHAT ?
RIGHT THEN, CALL YOUR DAD OVER, WILL YA?
...HMM.
LOOKS LIKE IT WON'T DO US GOOD CONTINUE LAZING AROUND AIM-LESSLY LIKE THAT.
GET YOUR DAD OVER SO THAT WE CAN HEAR STORIES FROM HIS DELINQUENT DAYS. THAT WAY, WE MAY EVEN GET OURSELVES SOME CRUCIAL HINTS
BY KNOWING ABOUT THE PAST, WE MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO ATTAIN NEW KNOWLEDGE.
NAH, HE'S STILL AT WORK NOW.
CAN YOU ASK HIM TO COME NOW?
.....
THAT WILL ALLOW US MODERN DELINQUENTS TO ONCE AGAIN RECLAIM THE GLORY.
YEAH SURE, LET'S JUST WAIT!!
OH YEAH... SHALL WE WAIT TILL SPM?


NICE TO MEET YOU...

NICE TO MEET ALL OF YOU...

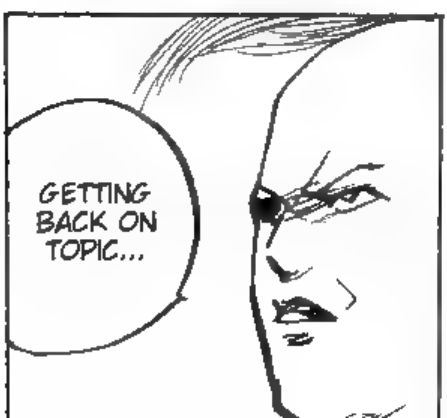
THAT'S UMM, YOUR DAD?
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT... I JUST WANTED TO BE SURE...
He looks rather old...
OF COURSE THAT'S MY DAD! ARE YOU EXPECTING ME TO JUST GRAB SOME OLD MAN OFF THE STREETS!?
HMM, LET'S SEE...
SIR, WHAT WERE DELIN-QUENTS LIKE BACK THEN?
ANYWAY, THIS IS RATHER SUDDEN BUT WE WERE JUST WONDERING,
YES?
THAT'S UH,
WHAT?
HEY, HAYASHIDA, WAIT A MINUTE. BEFORE THAT, THERE'S SOMETHING I GOT TO CONFIRM.


ME?
SIR, DID YOU REALLY USE TO BE A DELINQUENT?

. . . . . .
WELL, KIND OF, I GUESS.

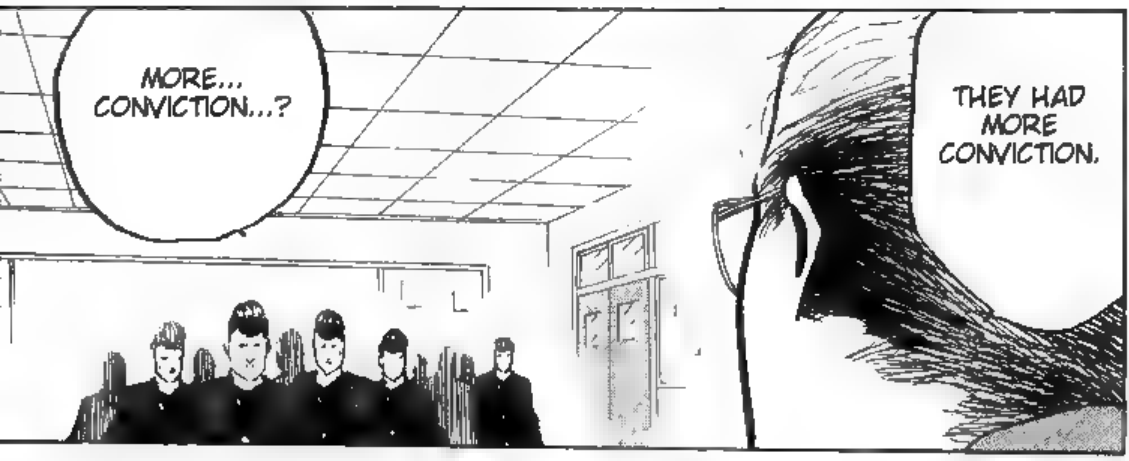
WHOA!! THAT'S ONE HELL OF A BADASS!!
HERE, HAVE A LOOK.

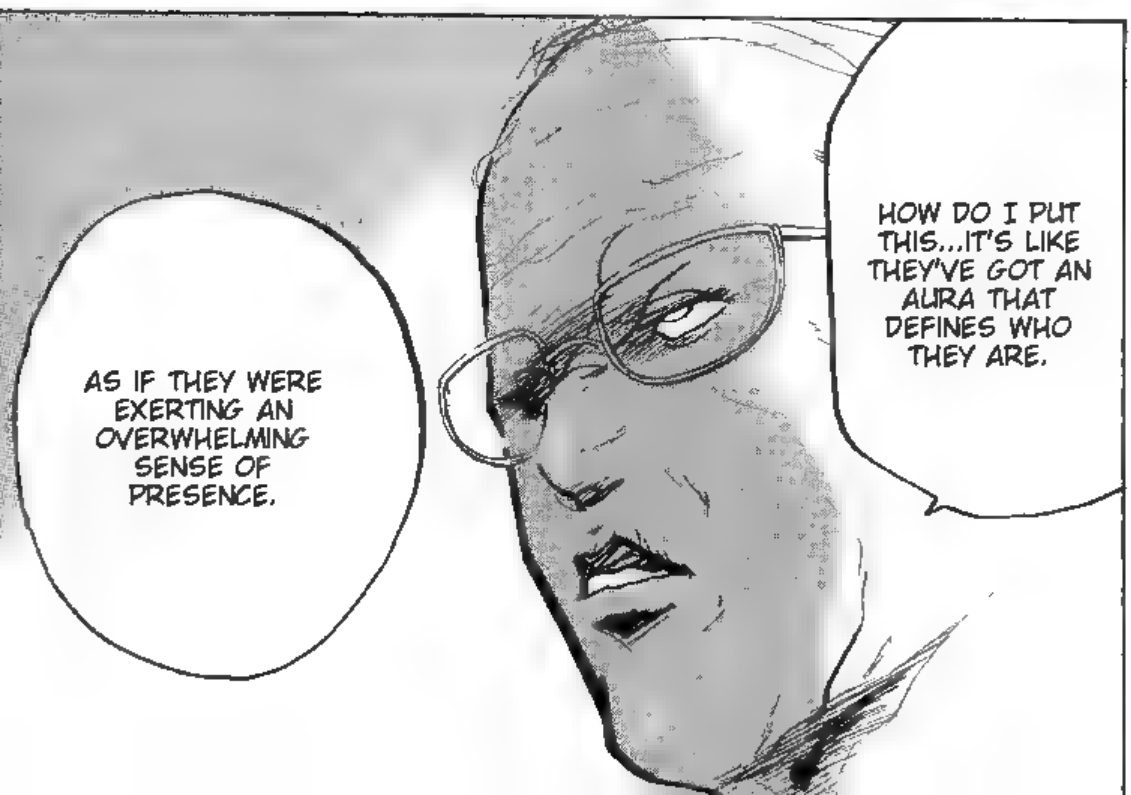
HMM ?
OH RIGHT,

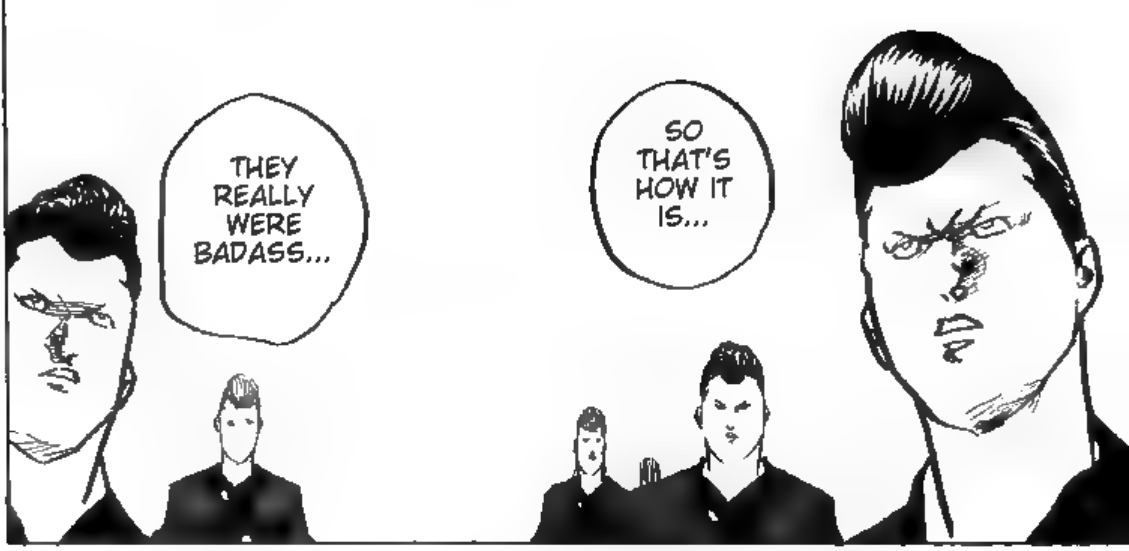

GETTING BACK ON TOPIC...

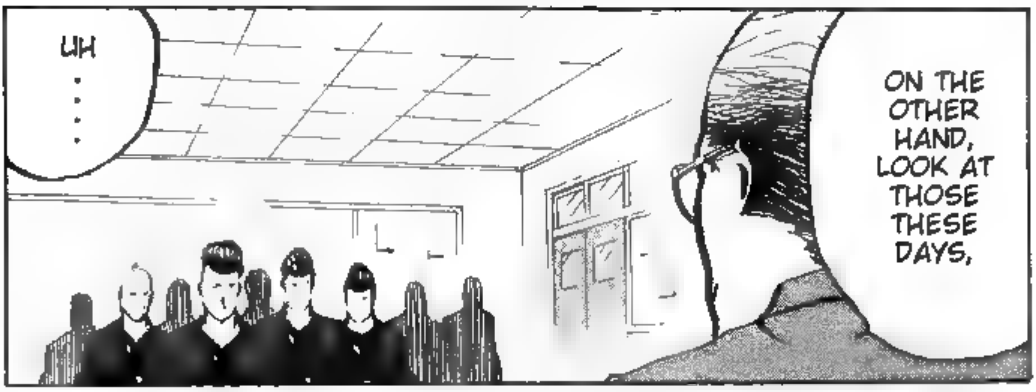
OH, A FRIEND ...
THAT'S MY CLASS-MATE, IIJIMA.

WELL, TO PUT IT SIMPLY, IT WOULD BE THAT
BACK THEN HUH...
WHAT'S IT LIKE BEING A DELINQUENT BACK THEN?

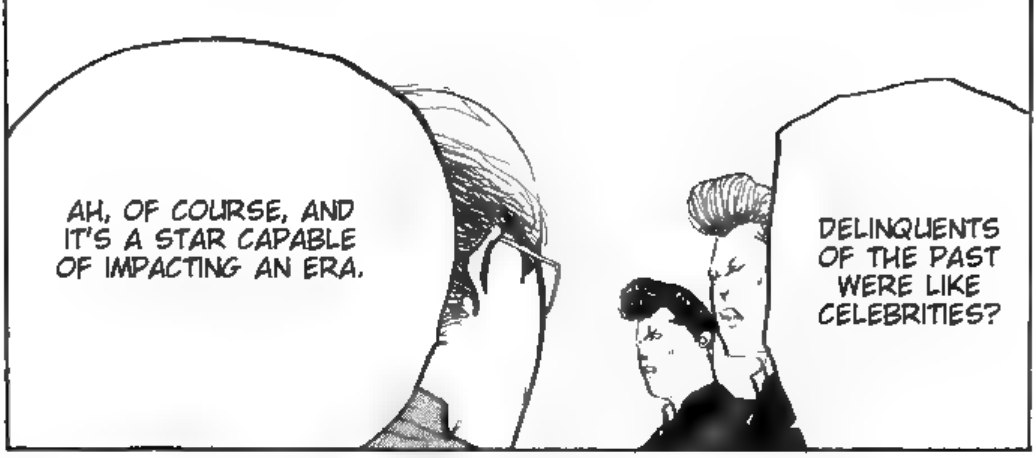

MORE... CONVICTION...?
THEY HAD MORE CONVICTION.

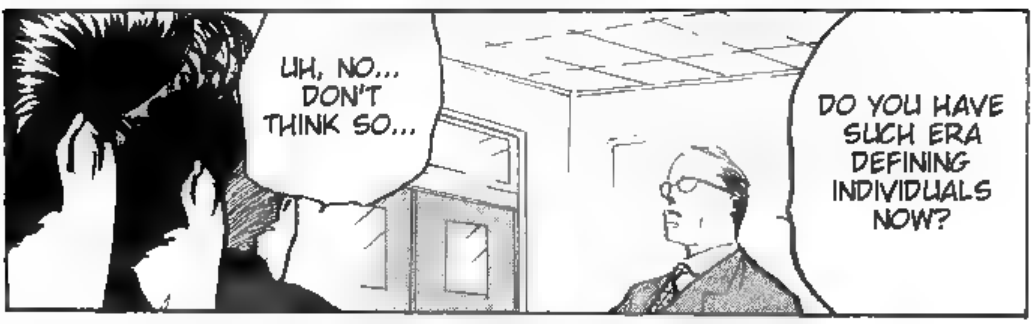

AS IF THEY WERE EXERTING AN OVERWHELMING SENSE OF PRESENCE.
HOW DO I PUT THIS...IT'S LIKE THEY'VE GOT AN AURA THAT DEFINES WHO THEY ARE.


THEY REALLY WERE BADASS...
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...


UH.....
ON THE OTHER HAND, LOOK AT THOSE THESE DAYS,

WHAT !!?
SPEAKING OF WHICH, THERE WAS AN ABSO-LUTELY OUTSTAN-DING STAR...
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY LACK THE CHARM REQUIRED TO REIGN IN OTHERS.
THEY SIMPLY DON'T HAVE THAT CONVICTION... FURTHER-MORE, THEY LACK THE "PASSION" TOO.


AH, OF COURSE, AND IT'S A STAR CAPABLE OF IMPACTING AN ERA.
DELINQUENTS OF THE PAST WERE LIKE CELEBRITIES?


UH, NO... DON'T THINK SO...
DO YOU HAVE SUCH ERA DEFINING INDIVIDUALS NOW?

UHMM...
I KNEW IT. IT MAY BE HARSH OF ME TO SAY THIS, BUT DON'T YOU THINK THAT PEOPLE THESE DAYS ARE LACKING IN SELF-AWARENESS?

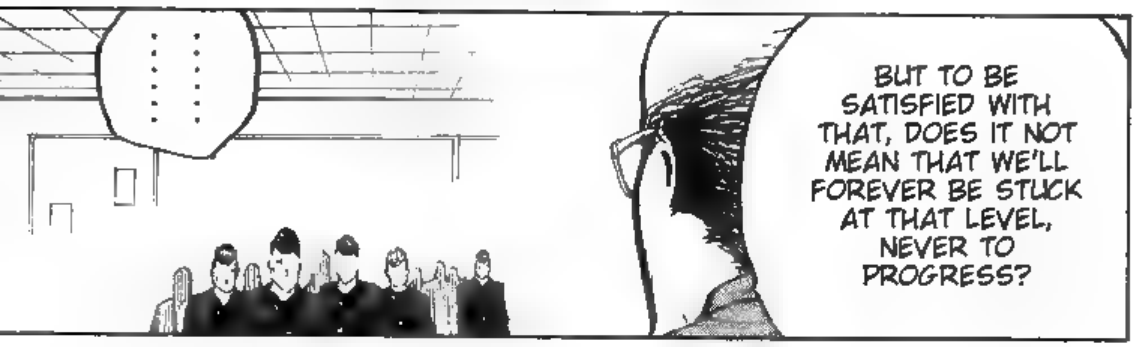
AND THEN YOU CONTINUE TO POLISH YOUR SKILLS AS YOU FACE OFF AGAINST YOUR RIVALS.
YOU GOT TO LEARN TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO YOUR OWN SELF AND BE MORE ASSERTIVE IN ONE'S COURSE OF ACTION.

IF YOU CAN DO THAT
THEN YOU'LL DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO CATCH THE CROWD'S ATTENTION.

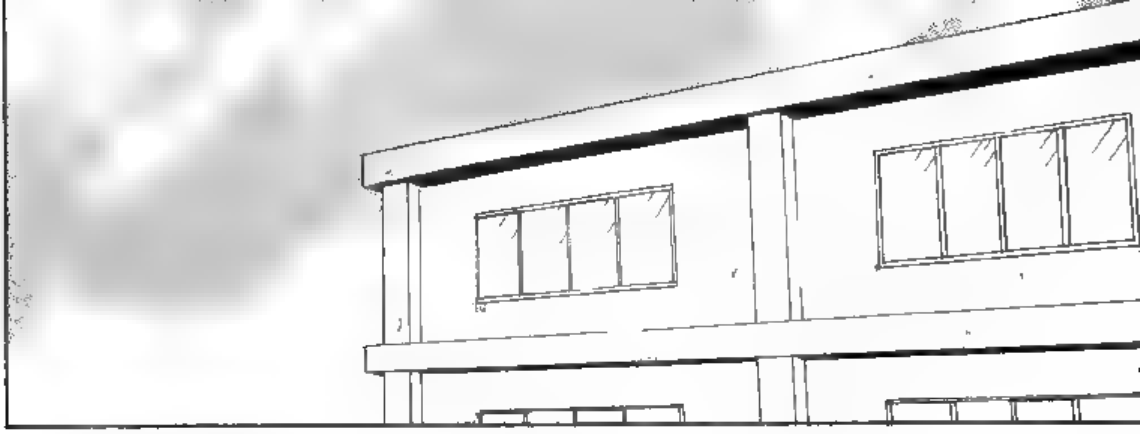
.....

TRUE, IT CAN'T BE HELPED THAT THINGS RIGHT NOW AREN'T GOING TO BE THE SAME AS BACK THEN, WHAT WITH THE INCREASE IN VARIOUS FORMS OF ENTERTAINMENT TO CATCH PEOPLE'S ATTENTION AND SO ON
THE... CROWD ...?

LOOKING BACK AT WHAT IT WAS LIKE...WELL, IT WAS, FROM A CERTAIN POINT OF VIEW, A PRETTY DARN GOOD ERA...
BUT WHEN YOU SPEAK OF ENTERTAINMENT FROM THE PAST, I GUESS THIS IS PRETTY MUCH IT.


.....
BUT TO BE SATISFIED WITH THAT, DOES IT NOT MEAN THAT WE'LL FOREVER BE STUCK AT THAT LEVEL, NEVER TO PROGRESS?

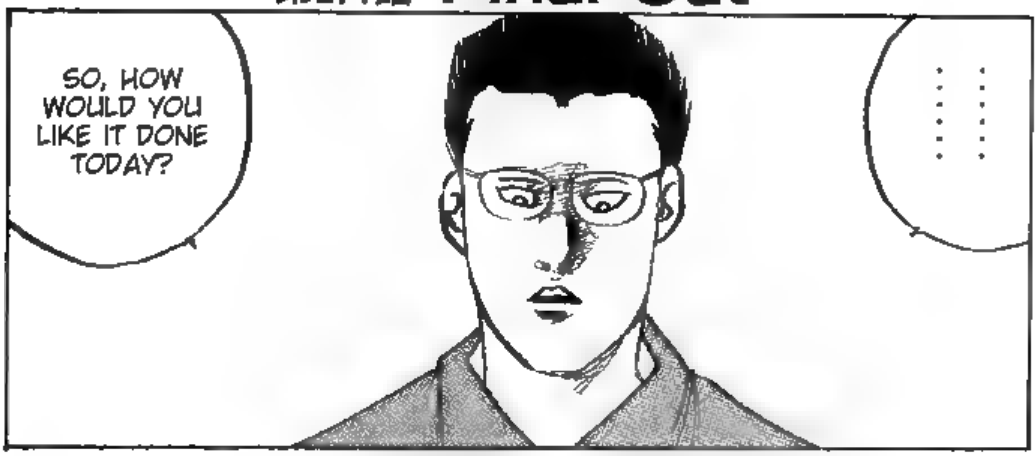
ISN'T THAT WHAT THIS GENERATION SHOULD STRIVE FOR?
THE WILLINGNESS TO FACE ADVERSITY WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT...



SORRY...SEEMS LIKE MY OLD MAN GOT CONFUSED AND ENDED UP TALKING ABOUT PRO WRESTLING...
SAY, REGARDING YESTERDAY... WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT ALL ABOUT ANYWAY?

EH, SAME DIFFERENCES.

第271話 Final Cut



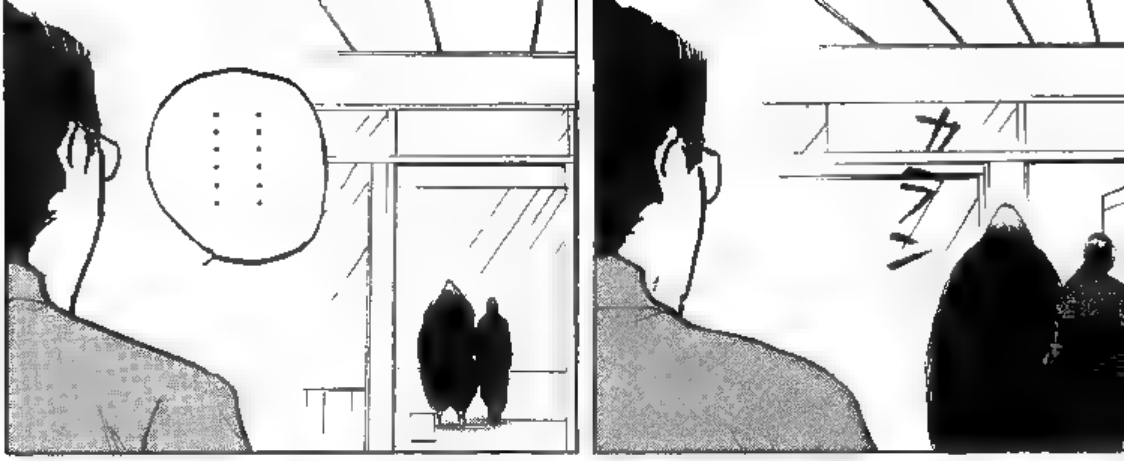
THANKS FOR COMING.
THANKS.
床屋

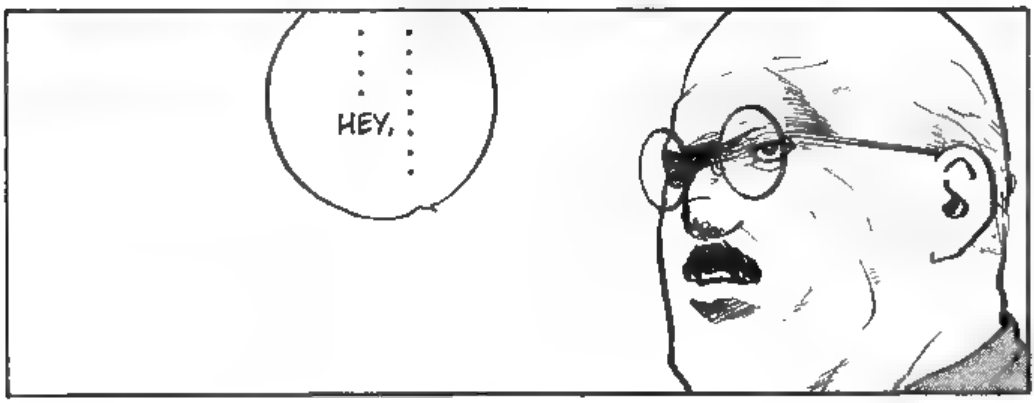
THANKS FOR COMING.
THANKS.
床屋
OK...
NEXT PLEASE.

COMING...
NEXT PLEASE...

床屋
JUST A NORMAL ONE WILL DO.
ANY PARTICULAR HAIR STYLE YOU'D LIKE?

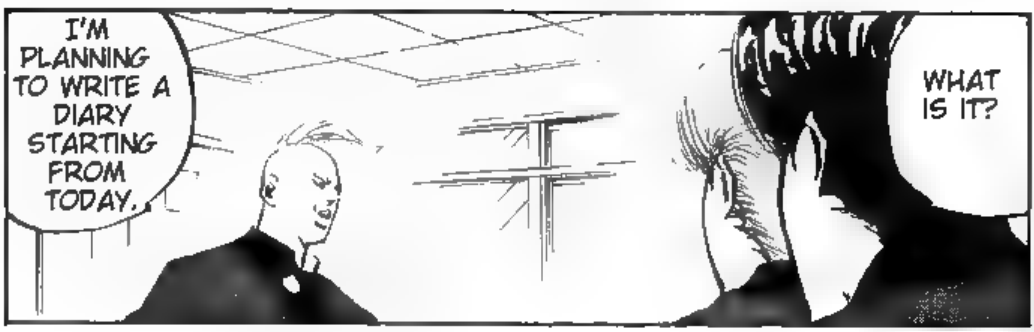
THANKS FOR COMING.
THANK YOU.

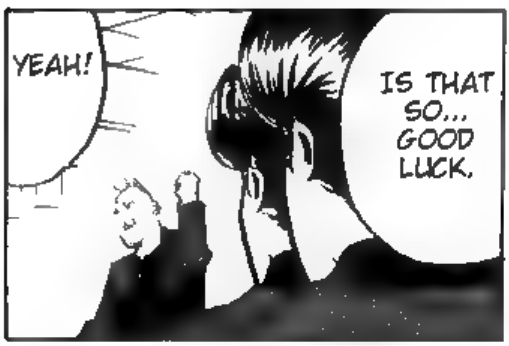




THOUGH IT LOOKED LIKE HE WANTED A CUT TOO.

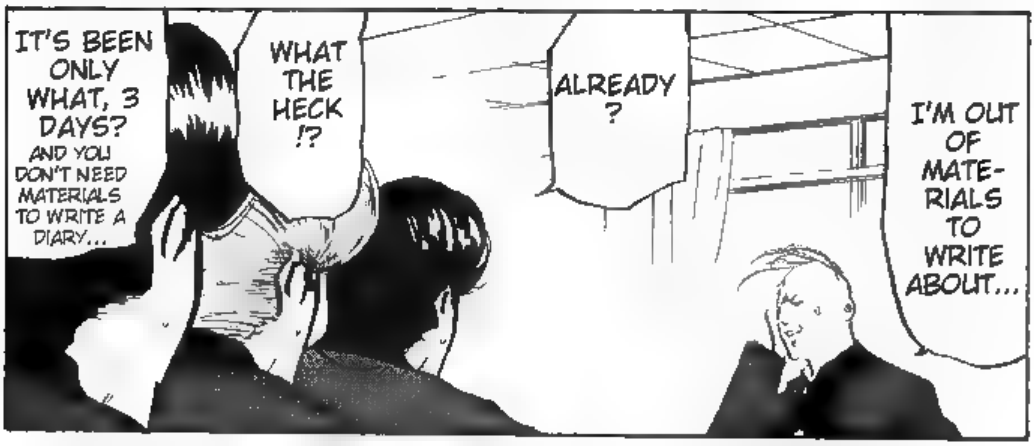
第272話 Everyday

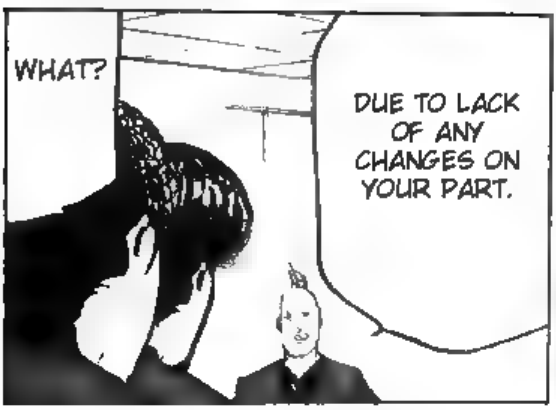


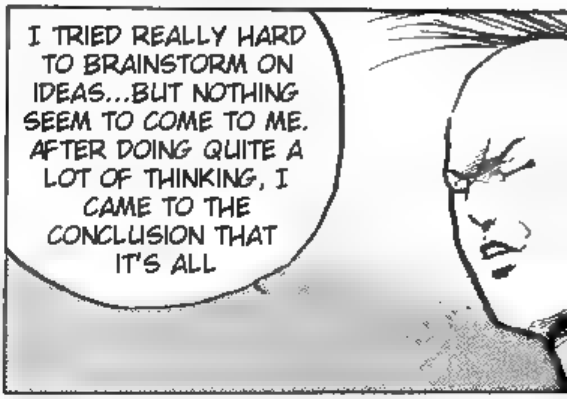


OK...
THE NEXT DAY
HEY, MAN.
YO.
'SUP.
THE DIARY?
OH YEAH, HAYASHIDA, HOW'S THE DIARY GOING?

HMM...
SO, WHAT DID YOU WRITE ABOUT?
OH, REALLY? THAT'S PRETTY RARE OF YOU.
YEAH, IT'S GOING PRETTY WELL.
I SEE.
FOLLOWED BY WHAT SORT OF STUDENTS THIS SCHOOL HAS... BASICALLY STUFFS ABOUT YOU BUNCH.
WELL I STARTED WITH AN INTRO OF THIS SCHOOL.
ANYWAY, KEEP IT UP, MAN.
NO, IT ISN'T MEANT TO BE READ BY OTHERS, YEAH?
YEAH, THAT WAY IT'S EASIER FOR OTHERS TO UNDERSTAND.
IT'S BEST TO START WITH SOMETHING THAT ISN'T OVERLY SOPHISTI-CATED.
. . . . . .

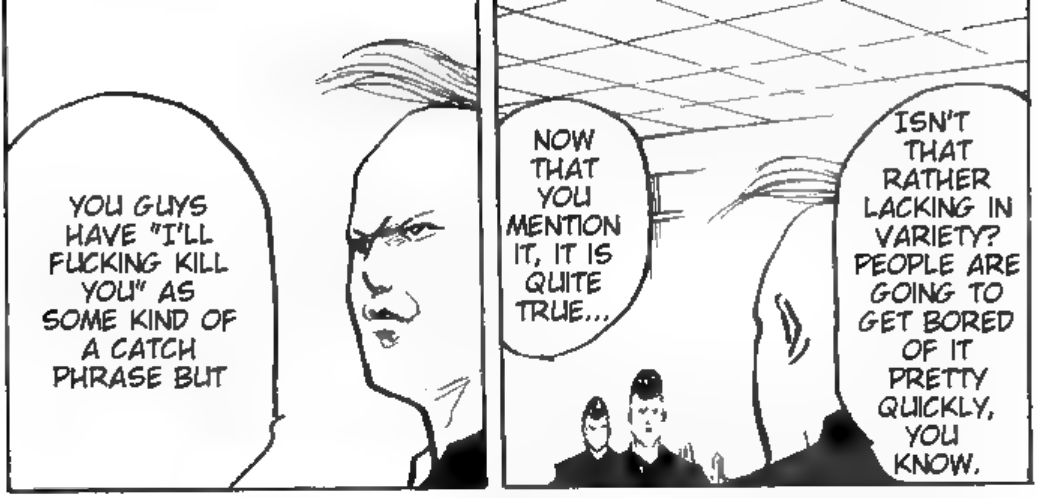

IT'S BEEN ONLY WHAT, 3 DAYS?
AND YOU DON'T NEED MATERIALS TO WRITE A DIARY...
WHAT THE HECK !?
ALREADY ?
I'M OUT OF MATE-RIALS TO WRITE ABOUT...

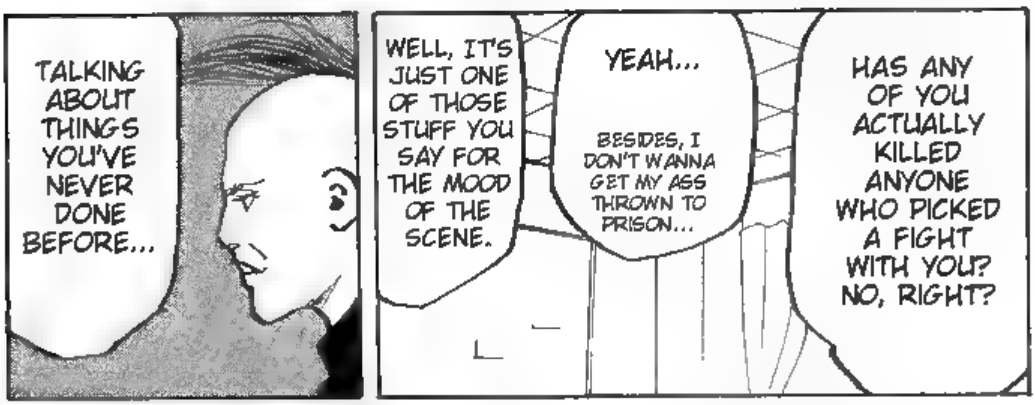


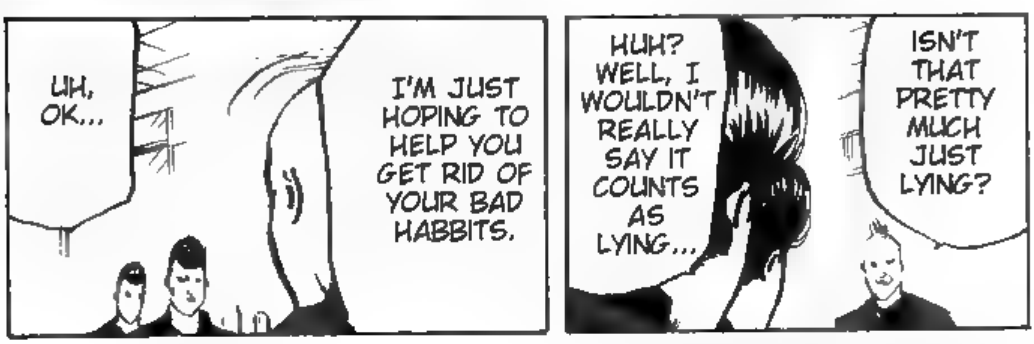

I TRIED REALLY HARD TO BRAINSTORM ON IDEAS...BUT NOTHING SEEM TO COME TO ME. AFTER DOING QUITE A LOT OF THINKING, I CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IT'S ALL

REGENT STYLE = POMPADOUR

THE THINGS YOU GUYS SAY ARE PRETTY MUCH LIMITED TO STUFFS LIKE "HEY, WHAT THE FUCK DID YOU SAY!?" OR "I'LL FUCKING SCAG YOU!" OR "THINK YA CAN RUN AWAY FROM US, YA PUNK!?"...
YOU GUYS ALL WEAR THE SAME UNIFORMS, ALL YOUR HAIRSTYLES ARE EITHER PUNCH PERMS OR REGENTS.

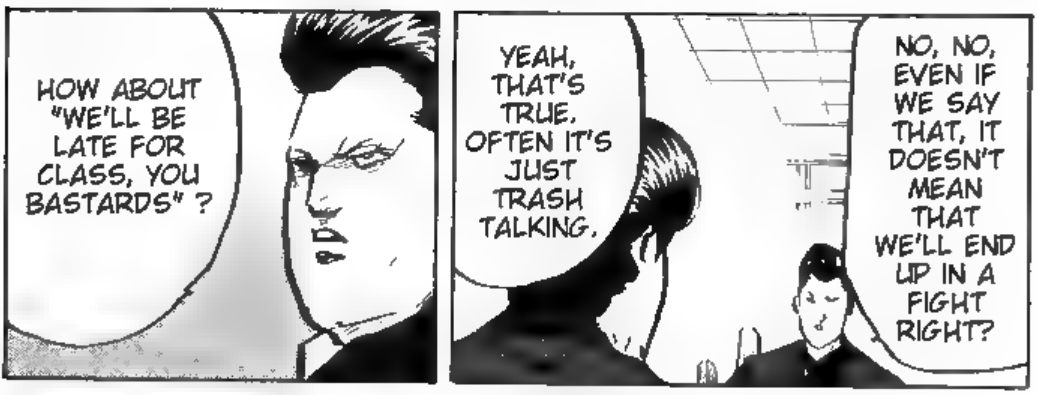

YOU GUYS HAVE "I'LL FUCKING KILL YOU" AS SOME KIND OF A CATCH PHRASE BUT
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, IT IS QUITE TRUE...
ISN'T THAT RATHER LACKING IN VARIETY? PEOPLE ARE GOING TO GET BORED OF IT PRETTY QUICKLY, YOU KNOW.

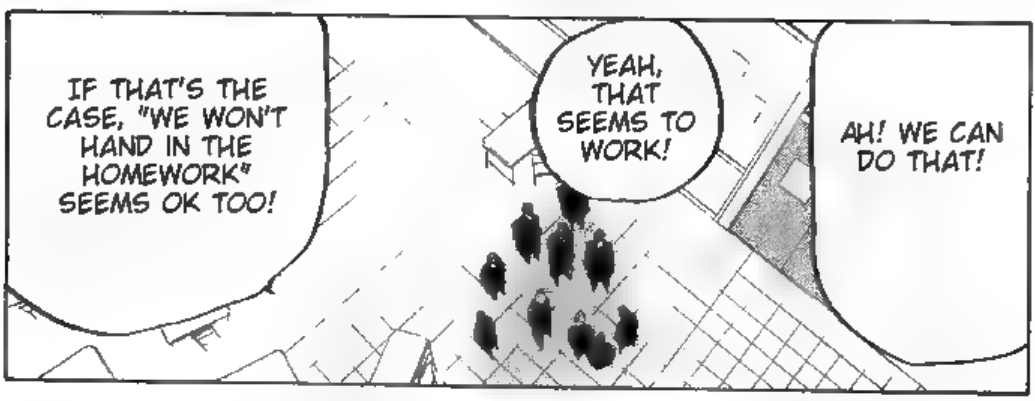

TALKING ABOUT THINGS YOU'VE NEVER DONE BEFORE...
WELL, IT'S JUST ONE OF THOSE STUFF YOU SAY FOR THE MOOD OF THE SCENE.
YEAH...
BESIDES, I DON'T WANNA GET MY ASS THROWN TO PRISON...
HAS ANY OF YOU ACTUALLY KILLED ANYONE WHO PICKED A FIGHT WITH YOU? NO, RIGHT?


UH, OK...
I'M JUST HOPING TO HELP YOU GET RID OF YOUR BAD HABBITS.
HUH? WELL, I WOULDN'T REALLY SAY IT COUNTS AS LYING...
ISN'T THAT PRETTY MUCH JUST LYING?

YEAH...
GOT IT?
YOU GOT TO BE REALISTIC: BOTH IN YOUR ACTION AND IN SPEECH.
FIRST, DON'T SAY SOMETHING UNLESS YOU REALLY MEAN TO DO IT AND THAT YOU ACTUALLY CAN DO IT.

HOW ABOUT WE CHANGE IT TO "I'LL BEAT THE SHIT OUT OF YOU"?
YEAH...
TRUTH BE TOLD, DELIN-QUENTS DON'T SEEM TO DO MUCH ANYWAY...
BUT HOW DO WE ACTUALLY GO ABOUT TO DOING THAT?


HOW ABOUT "WE'LL BE LATE FOR CLASS, YOU BASTARDS" ?
YEAH, THAT'S TRUE. OFTEN IT'S JUST TRASH TALKING.
NO, NO, EVEN IF WE SAY THAT, IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE'LL END UP IN A FIGHT RIGHT?


IF THAT'S THE CASE, "WE WON'T HAND IN THE HOMEWORK" SEEMS OK TOO!
YEAH, THAT SEEMS TO WORK!
AH! WE CAN DO THAT!

SO THE NEXT TIME WE'RE ABOUT TO CLASH WITH SOME OTHER PUNKS AND NEED TO THROW A THREAT,
ALRIGHT,

HMM, SOUNDS GOOD.
"FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, IF YOU DARE MESS AROUND SOME MORE, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HAND IN YOUR HOMEWORK"... WHAT DO YOU THINK?

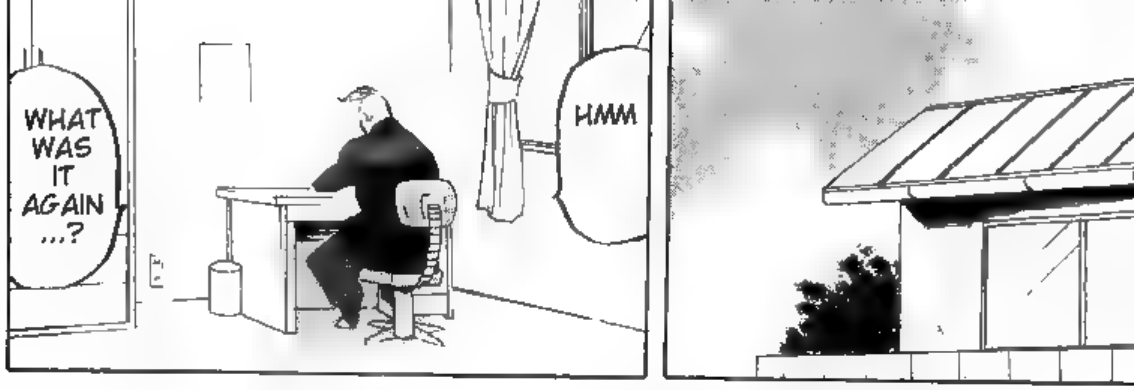
"YOU DARE MESS AROUND SOME MORE, YOU'LL WET YOUR BED!"
WHAT ABOUT THIS,

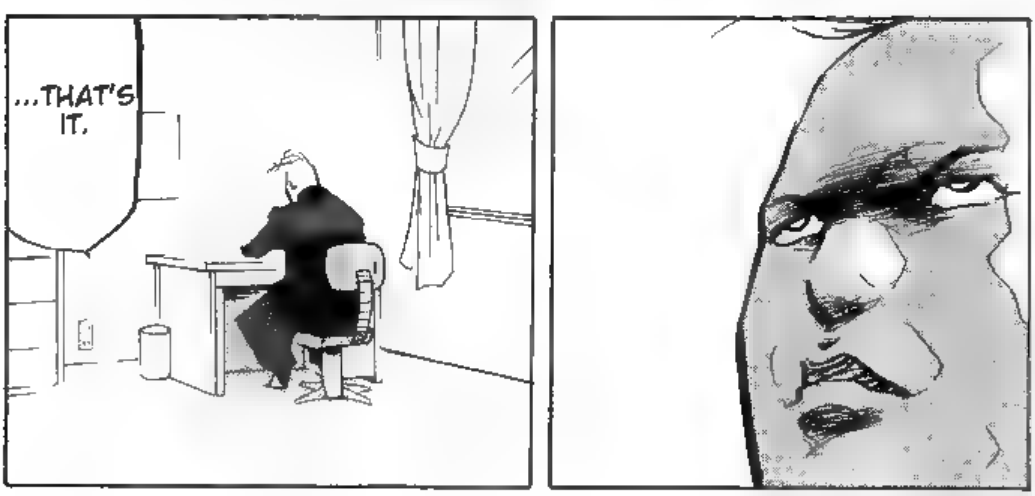
RIGHT, IT'S GOOD MATERIALS FOR HAYASHIDA TOO.
LET'S TRY AND THINK OF MORE.

WELL, I THINK WE'VE GOT ENOUGH GOING FOR NOW

PFFFT, IDIOT. IT WAS FUNNY THOUGH.
RIGHT, BAD EXAMPLE, SORRY...
WETTING YOUR BED IN HIGH SCHOOL? WHAT THE FUCK?

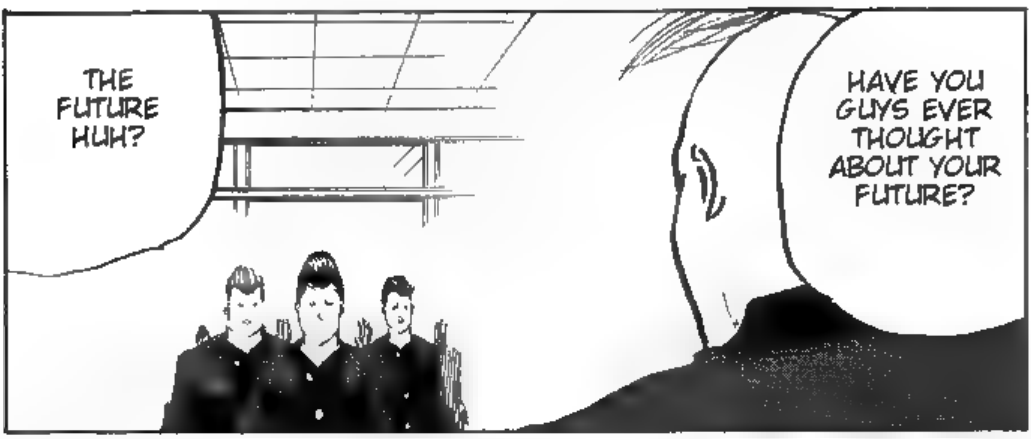
YEAH, THANKS GUYS! I'LL WORK HARD!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH YOUR DIARY NOW, RIGHT!
YEAH, THERE SHOULD BE MORE THAN ENOUGH MATERIALS FOR HAYASHIDA.
SO LET'S JUST STOP FOR TODAY.

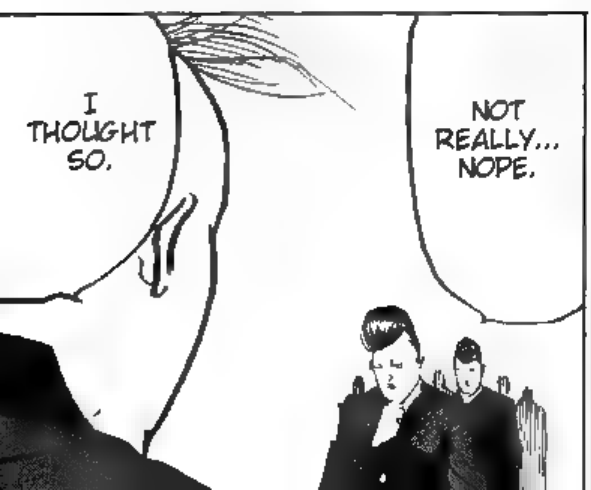




THAT'S NOT IT, IS IT!

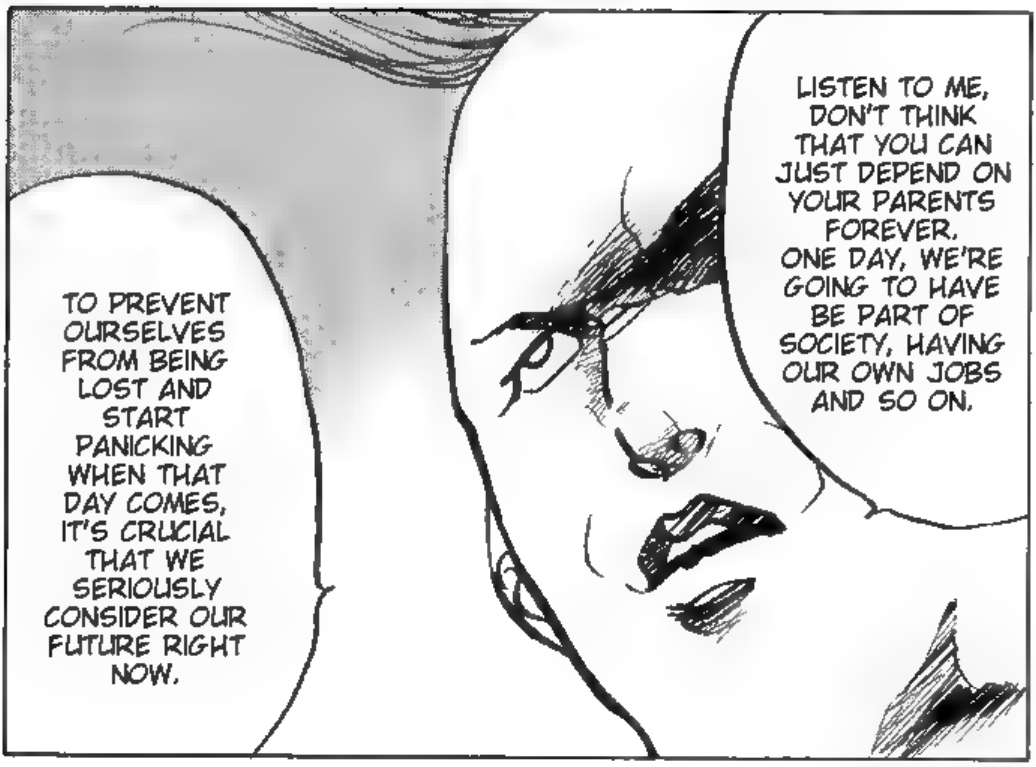
第273話 NEAT NEAT NEAT



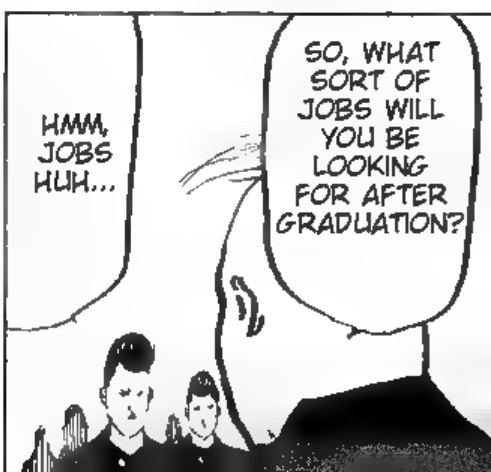


THAT'S THE SAME THING.
WE PLAN THINGS 2 WEEKS AHEAD.

NAH,
I'M GUESSING YOU GUYS ONLY PLAN THINGS A WEEK AHEAD RIGHT?


LISTEN TO ME, DON'T THINK THAT YOU CAN JUST DEPEND ON YOUR PARENTS FOREVER. ONE DAY, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE BE PART OF SOCIETY, HAVING OUR OWN JOBS AND SO ON.
TO PREVENT OURSELVES FROM BEING LOST AND START PANICKING WHEN THAT DAY COMES, IT'S CRUCIAL THAT WE SERIOUSLY CONSIDER OUR FUTURE RIGHT NOW.

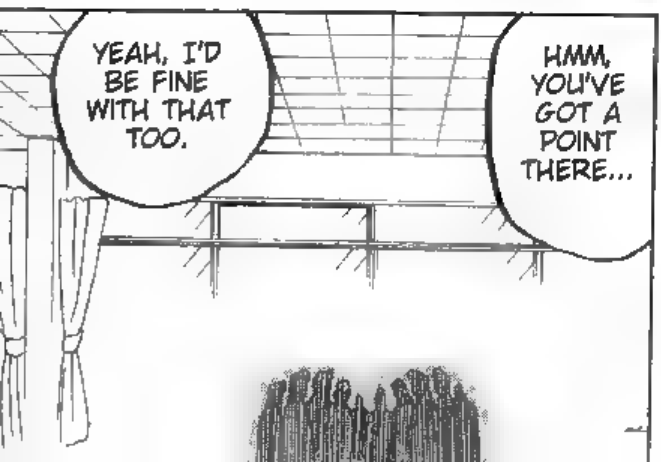
HOW NAIVE!
AH, YEAH, THAT'S GOOD.
SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T REQUIRE MUCH WORK BUT PAYS WELL AND IS NEAR MY HOUSE, I GUESS.


HMM, JOBS HUH...
SO, WHAT SORT OF JOBS WILL YOU BE LOOKING FOR AFTER GRADUATION?

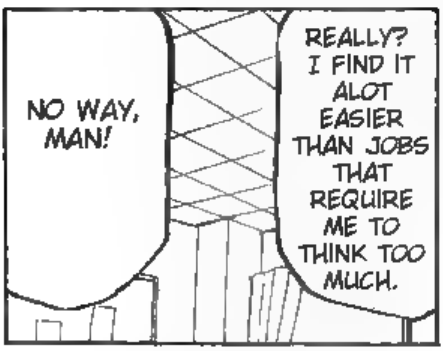
YOU GUYS SHOULD GET INTO THE MINDSET THAT "IF IT PAYS WELL, IT'S GOING TO WORK YOU TO THE BONES"
AN EASYGOING JOB LIKE THAT DOESN'T EXIST!

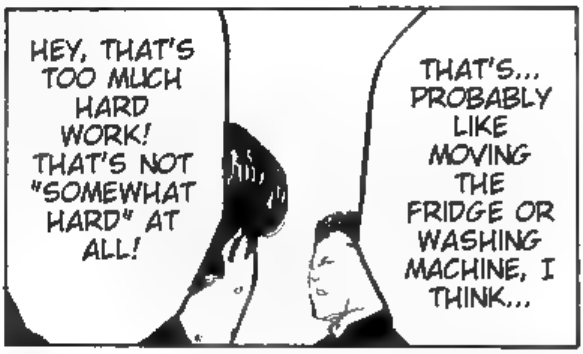
HMM, THAT'S A TOUGH CHOICE...
SO, WHICH OPTION WOULD YOU TAKE?
IT'S EITHER THAT OR "EASYGOING BUT HAS LOW PAYOFF"

FOR ME, I'M FINE WITH "WORKING SOMEWHAT HARD FOR SUFFICIENT PAY"
WAIT, THE OPTIONS ARE TOO EXTREME, THAT'S WHY!

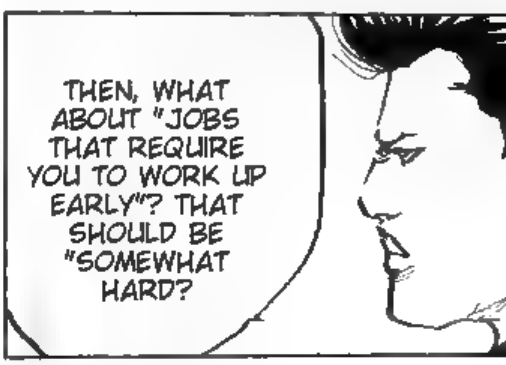

YEAH, I'D BE FINE WITH THAT TOO.
HMM, YOU'VE GOT A POINT THERE...

HOW HARD WOULD THAT BE? HOW MUCH HARDER DO YOU NEED TO WORK?
BUT YOU KNOW, WHEN THEY SAY "SOMEWHAT HARD"


NO WAY, MAN!
REALLY? I FIND IT ALOT EASIER THAN JOBS THAT REQUIRE ME TO THINK TOO MUCH.

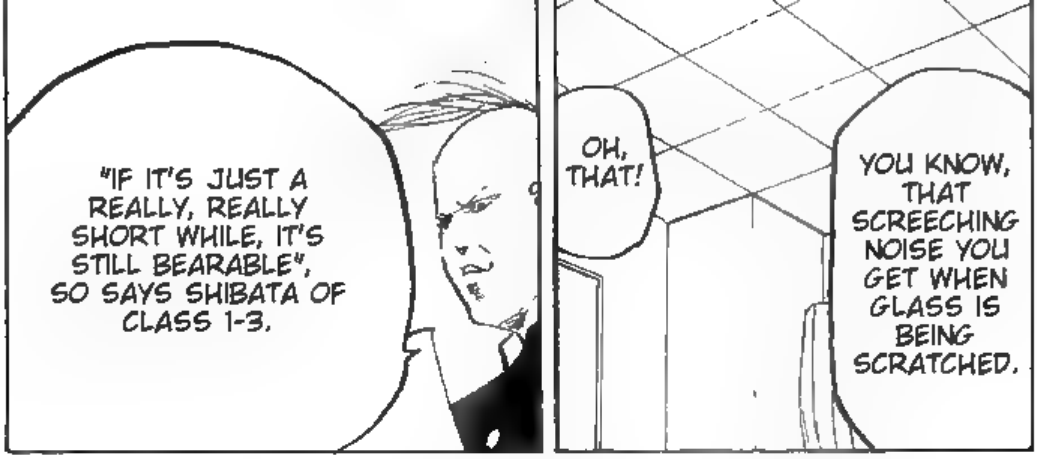

HEY, THAT'S TOO MUCH HARD WORK! THAT'S NOT "SOMEWHAT HARD" AT ALL!
THAT'S... PROBABLY LIKE MOVING THE FRIDGE OR WASHING MACHINE, I THINK...

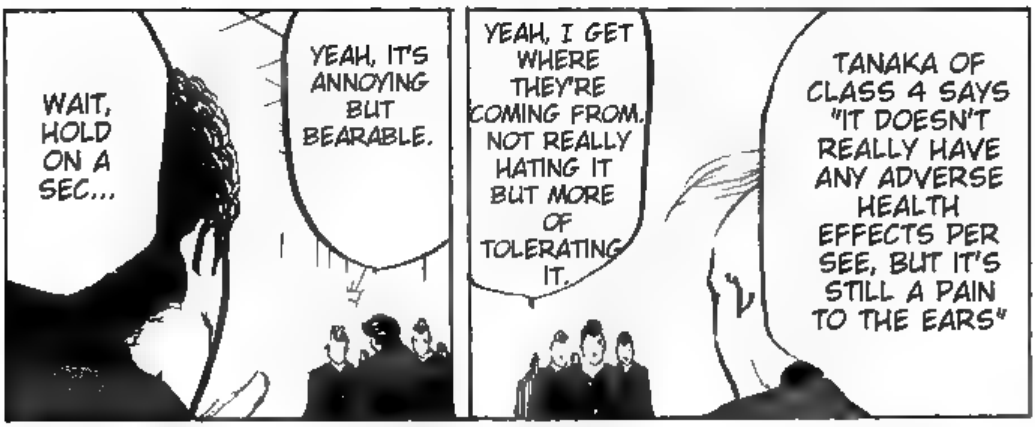
NAH, I'M NOT AN EARLY PERSON SO TO ME, THAT'S A HECK LOT OF WORK AS WELL!

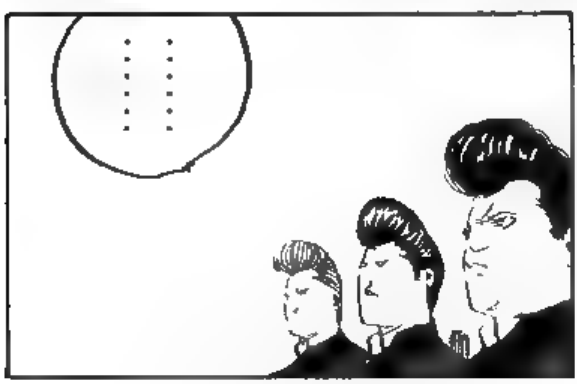

THEN, WHAT ABOUT "JOBS THAT REQUIRE YOU TO WORK UP EARLY"? THAT SHOULD BE "SOMEWHAT HARD?

AH HECK... STOP, STOP! THIS ISN'T WORKING OUT AT ALL!
ALTHOUGH I'M A NIGHT PERSON, I DON'T REALLY LIKE WORKING AT NIGHT. INSTEAD, I ACTUALLY PREFER WORKING IN THE DAY.
IS THAT SO? I'VE GOT NO PROBLEM WAKING UP EARLY EVERYDAY. TO ME, IT'S A PIECE OF CAKE.

LET'S HAVE A VOTE.
SO, WHAT NOW?
WELL, LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE HAS A DIFFERENT IDEA OF WHAT CONSTITUTE AS A "HARD WORK" SO WE CAN'T COME TO AN AGREEMENT.
I DON'T REALLY GET WHAT'S GOING ON BUT UH, SURE...
WE'LL HAVE "SOMEWHAT HARD" AS THE TOPIC.
RIGHT, HERE'S THE RESULTS.
...WHAT?
THE SOUND OF SCRATCHING GLASS.
COMING IN 3RD.

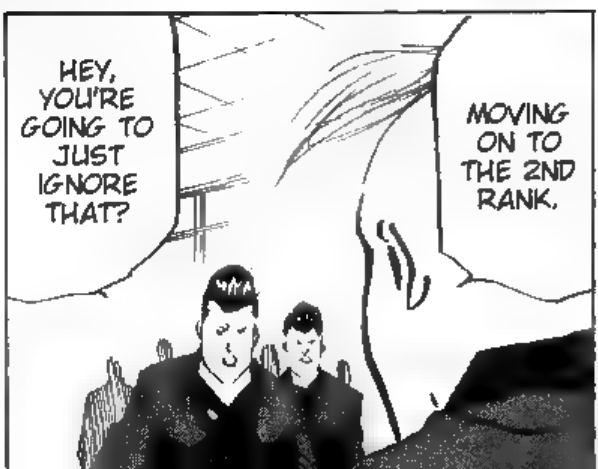

"IF IT'S JUST A REALLY, REALLY SHORT WHILE, IT'S STILL BEARABLE", SO SAYS SHIBATA OF CLASS 1-3.
OH, THAT!
YOU KNOW, THAT SCREECHING NOISE YOU GET WHEN GLASS IS BEING SCRATCHED.


WAIT, HOLD ON A SEC...
YEAH, IT'S ANNOYING BUT BEARABLE.
YEAH, I GET WHERE THEY'RE COMING FROM. NOT REALLY HATING IT BUT MORE OF TOLERATING IT.
TANAKA OF CLASS 4 SAYS "IT DOESN'T REALLY HAVE ANY ADVERSE HEALTH EFFECTS PER SEE, BUT IT'S STILL A PAIN TO THE EARS"


. . . . . .

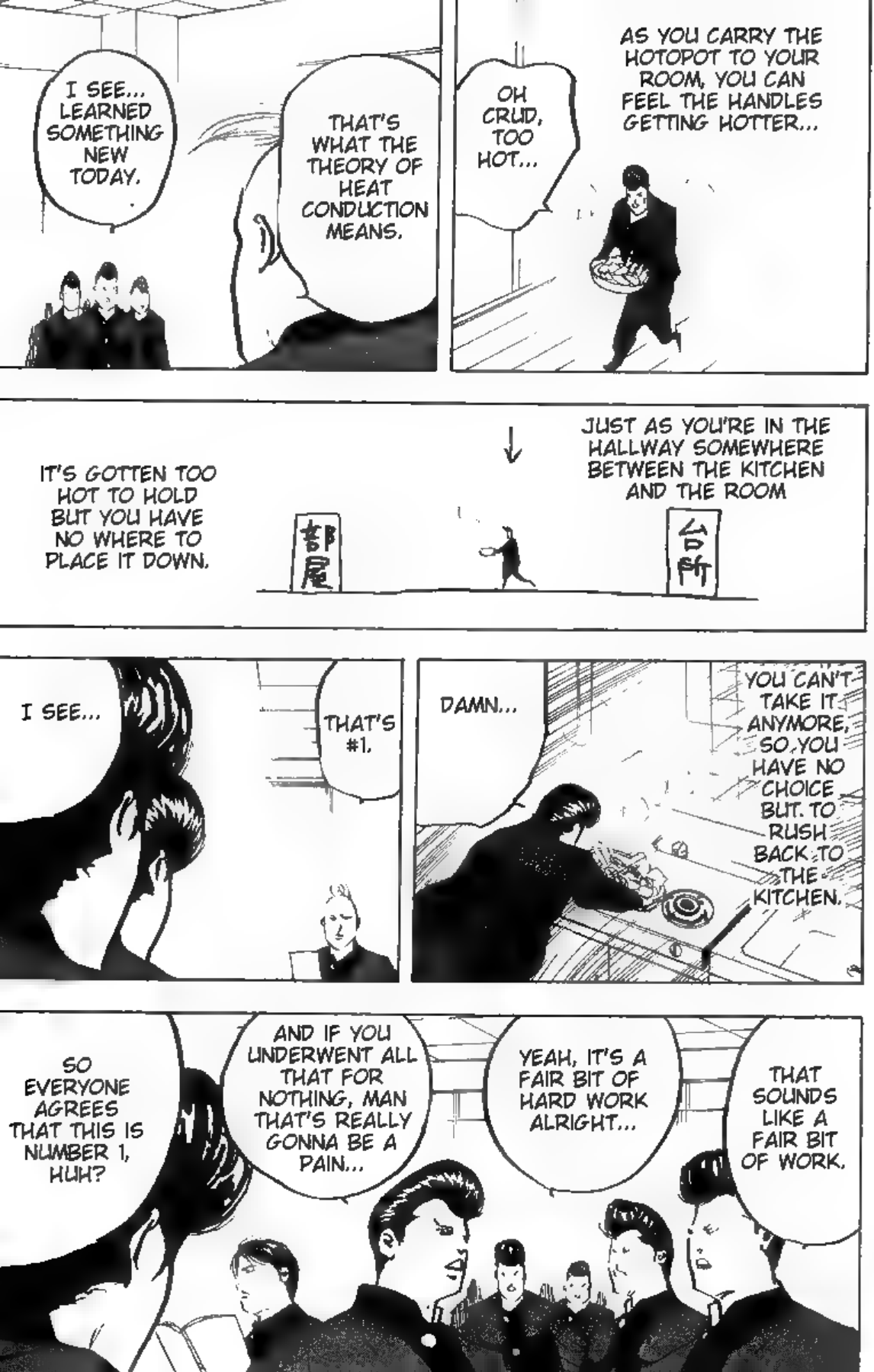
THAT'S... GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH JOBS RIGHT?

RANKED 2ND IS


HEY, YOU'RE GOING TO JUST IGNORE THAT?
MOVING ON TO THE 2ND RANK.

YOU KNOW HOW IT IS, ROACHES HIDING IN SMALL CORNERS BETWEEN FURNITURES.
WHAT?
UMM... THERE'S ROACHES RIGHT?
YOU GOT OUT THE INSECT SPRAY AND AIMED IT TOWARDS ITS HIDING SPOT. HOWEVER...
SO, THERE YOU ARE BEING UNEASY YOU DON'T KNOW IF IT'S STILL ALIVE BUT CAN'T HELP TO THINK THAT YOU'RE SURE IT'S STILL LURKING SOMEWHERE IN THE ROOM.
BUT YOU CAN'T BE SURE IF IT'S DEAD OR THAT IT HAS MANAGED TO ESCAPE TO SOMEWHERE ELSE.
YOU GET FEELING THAT IT MIGHT JUST SUDDENLY POP OUT OF SOME CORNER LATER, DON'T YOU?
YEAH, THAT SUCKS!
OH! I SEE!
IT'S THAT SORT OF FEELING, LIKE YOU JUST CAN'T SETTLE DOWN, YOU KNOW?

MOVING ON... NEXT!
HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH JOBS EITHER...
BUT THAT...
CARRYING HOTPOT.
ANNOUNCING THE NUMBER 1 ON THE POLL!
BUT THE HANDLES ARE TOO SMALL, SO IT'S DIFFICULT TO GET A PROPER GRIP ON THEM.
NOW TO EAT IT, YOU GOT TO BRING IT OUT OF THE KITCHEN AND INTO YOUR ROOM
AND IT'S STIL PIPPING HOT.
YOU'VE JUST MADE YOUR FAVURITE HOTPOT
HOWEVER, THAT'S WHERE YOU WERE WRONG.
OH, THE HANDLES AREN'T AS HOT AS I THOUGHT, GUESS I CAN BRING IT LIKE THIS.
ANXIOUS TO FEAST UPON THE HOTPOT, YOU TRIED TOUCHING THE POT -


I SEE... LEARNED SOMETHING NEW TODAY.
THAT'S WHAT THE THEORY OF HEAT CONDUCTION MEANS.
OH CRUD, TOO HOT...
AS YOU CARRY THE HOTOPOT TO YOUR ROOM, YOU CAN FEEL THE HANDLES GETTING HOTTER...
IT'S GOTTEN TOO HOT TO HOLD BUT YOU HAVE NO WHERE TO PLACE IT DOWN.
JUST AS YOU'RE IN THE HALLWAY SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THE KITCHEN AND THE ROOM
I SEE...
THAT'S #1.
DAMN...
YOU CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE, SO YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO RUSH BACK TO THE KITCHEN.
SO EVERYONE AGREES THAT THIS IS NUMBER 1, HUH?
AND IF YOU UNDERWENT ALL THAT FOR NOTHING, MAN THAT'S REALLY GONNA BE A PAIN...
YEAH, IT'S A FAIR BIT OF HARD WORK ALRIGHT...
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A FAIR BIT OF WORK.

WE CAN THEN CONCLUDE THAT
IF WE CAN COMBINE ALL THESE TOGETHER, IT'D COUNT AS A HARD DAY OF WORK?
IN OTHER WORDS,
BUT YOU KNOW, WHAT KIND OF JOB WOULD THAT BE ANYWAY?
YEAH, IT CERTAINLY WOULD BE A JOB THAT WORKS YOU TO THE BONE!
OH, I SEE!!
IT WOULD BE A RATHER WELL PAYING JOB AS WELL.
PROBABLY SOMETHING LIKE THIS, I THINK,
TOO HOT!!
UUGH!!

OH, ALMOST FORGOT TO TELL YOU GUYS,
GOOD WORK GUYS.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED! IT'S WAY TOO HOT AND IT DOESN'T HAVE PROPER HANDLES...
WHAT, AGAIN!?
SEEMS LIKE A ROACH HAS RAN INTO THE CORNER.
WE STIL HAVE HEAPS OF GOODS TO DELIVER LATER AFTER NOON.
HEY, DON'T SAY THAT
I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO CONCENTRATE AS I'LL BE TOO DISTRACTED WONDERING WHEN IT'LL COME OUT AGAIN...
OH, IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR LUNCH BREAK. THE BELL'S PROBABLY GOING TO GO OFF SOON...
NOW, NOW, KEEP IT UP, IT'S JUST A BIT MORE.
MAN, JUST MORNING ALONE IS ALREADY TIRING ME OUT...

AAARGH... COME ON LET'S GO HAVE LUNCH...
GLASS SCREECHING
AAAARGH! THERE GOES THE BELL!

YEAH, A JOB LIKE THAT WOULD A HARD WORK.
THAT SHOULD PAY PRETTY WELL RIGHT?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

A JOB LIKE THAT DOESN'T EXIST!!

THEY DON'T?

第274話 Bad Medicine

YEAH...
DID YOU MEAN ALCO-HOL?
I SEE...
. . . . . .
THANK YOU.
I'LL PER-SCRIBE SOME MEDS FOR YOU.
THAT'S UH, YOU SHOULD ONLY DRINK AFTER YOU'VE HIT 20.
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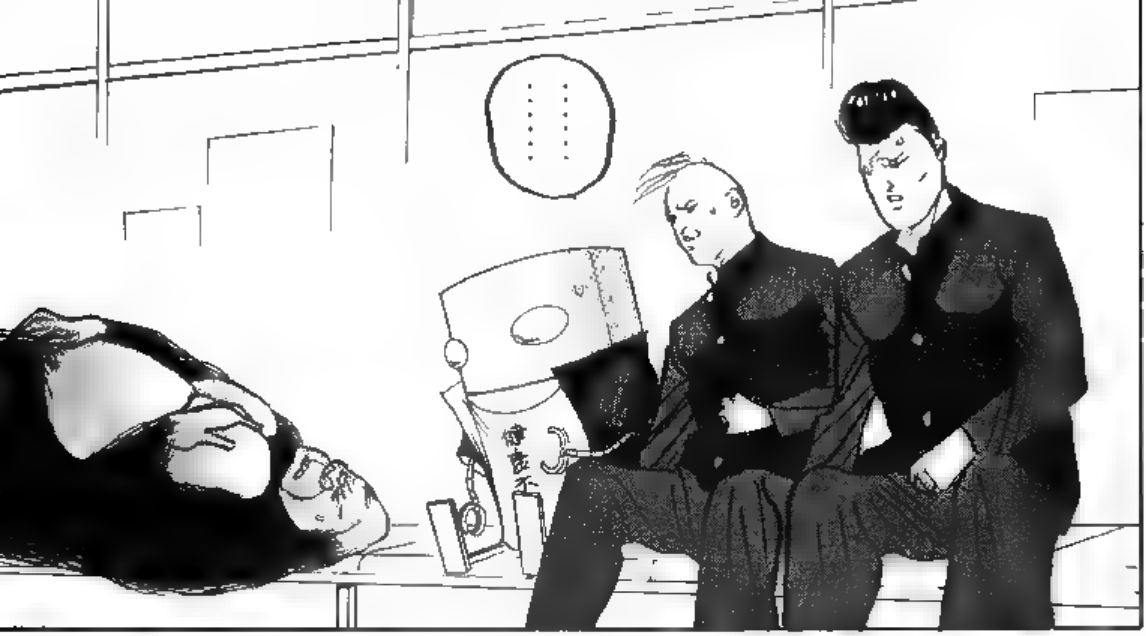


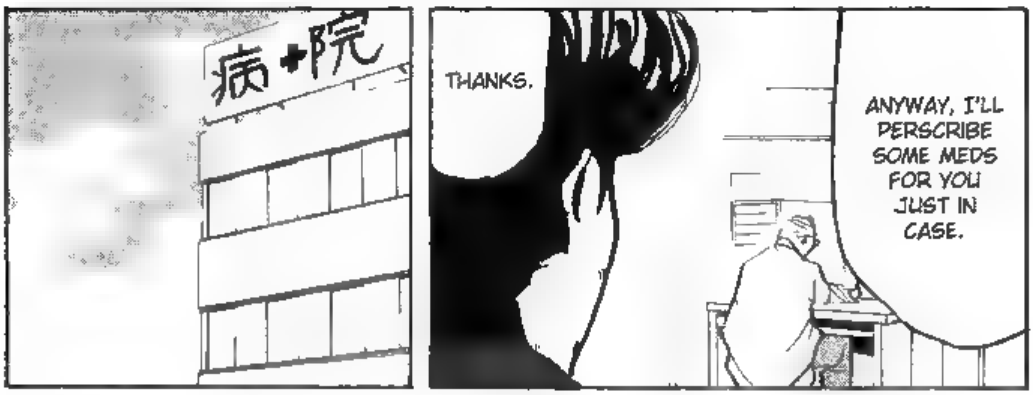
WELL...
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

HERE
MR OKAKI-WARA

I'M HAVING TROUBLE GOING TO SLEEP AT NIGHT...
RECENTLY,

THAT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE...

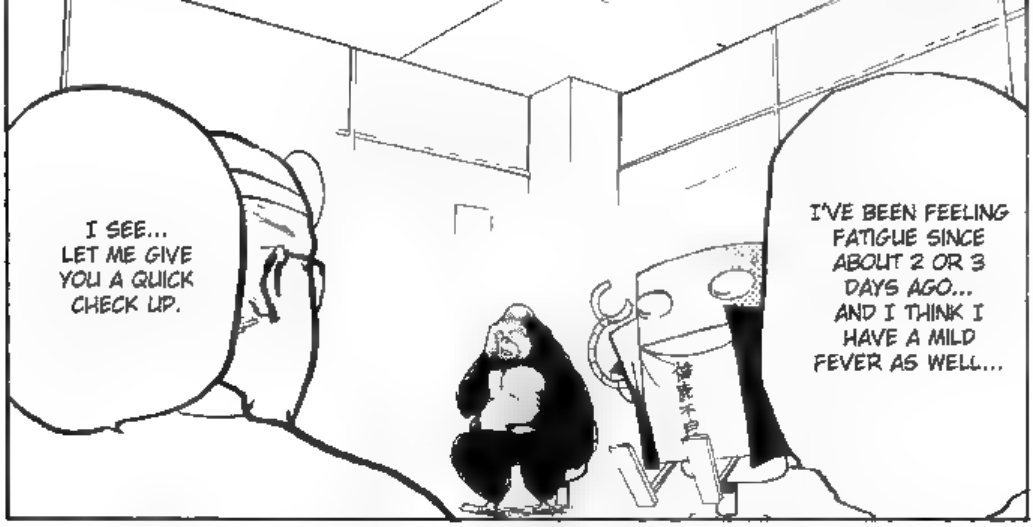
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY OTHER ISSUES, RIGHT?
AH, I SEE...
YOU'VE SLEPT TOO MUCH DURING THE DAY IN SCHOOL.

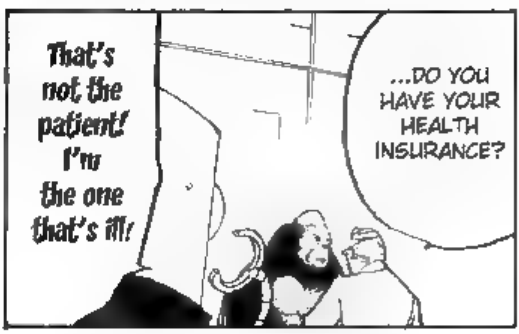

病+院
THANKS.
ANYWAY, I'LL PERSCRIBE SOME MEDS FOR YOU JUST IN CASE.

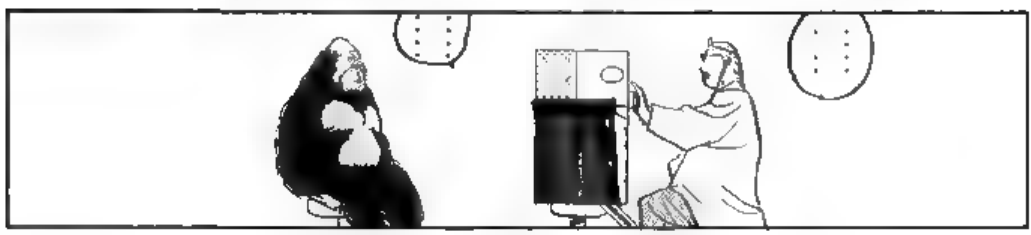
THE THING IS
WELL, WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLEM?
YUP.
MR. HAYASHIDA

I FEEL SO SLEEPY... I'M JUST FEELING SO TIRED ..

UH, YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT..
SO WHY NOT JUST LIE DOWN AND GO TO SLEEP?
.....
LET'S SEE... NEXT....
ガチャ
THANKS.
YOU DON'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY OTHER ISSUES SO YOU WON'T NEED ANY MEDS.
HERE...
MR... MECHAZAWA?
健康下良
WELL, WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLEM?
病+院


I SEE... LET ME GIVE YOU A QUICK CHECK UP.
I'VE BEEN FEELING FATIGUE SINCE ABOUT 2 OR 3 DAYS AGO... AND I THINK I HAVE A MILD FEVER AS WELL...





THE DOCTOR COULDN'T BE BOTHERED TO RETORT.

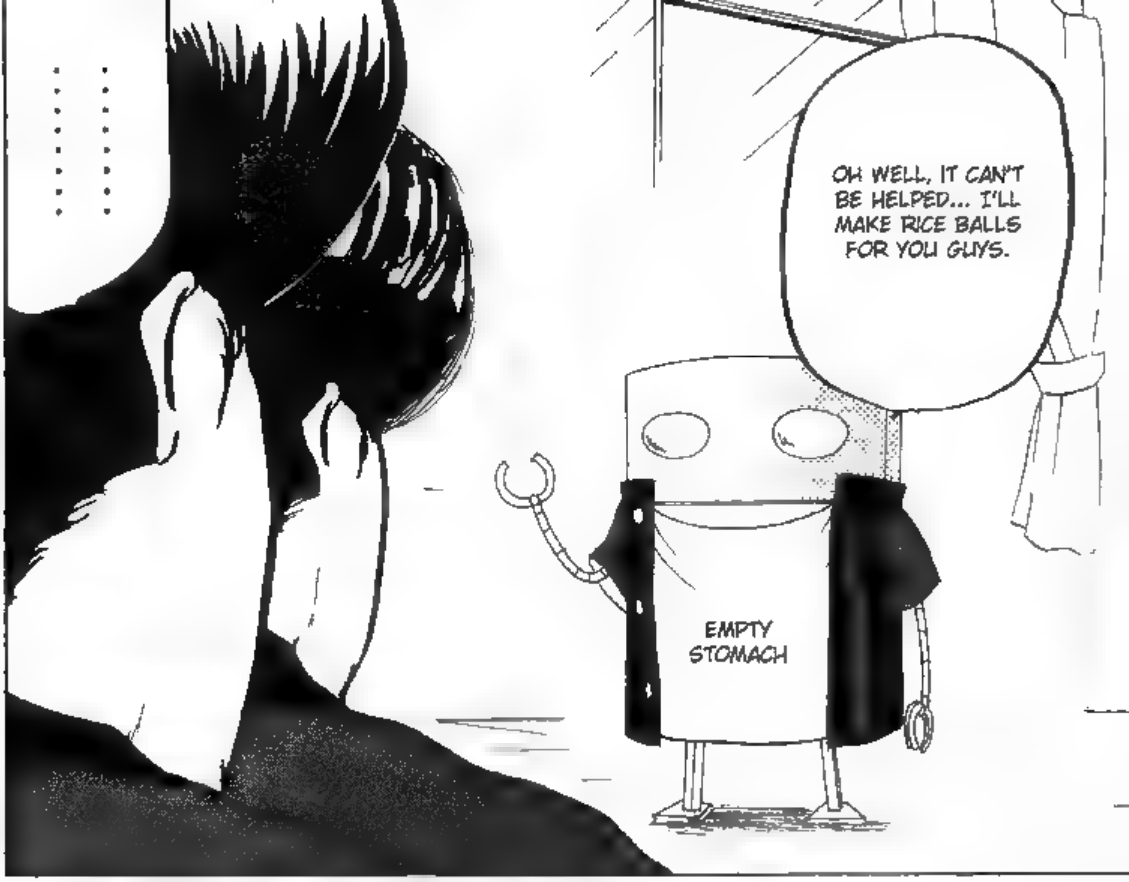
第275話 Eat It

I'M SO HUNGRY...
MAN...

IT'S SO COLD OUTSIDE, I DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING OUT.
LAZY...
EH...
HEY, LET'S GO TO THE MART AND BUY BACK SOMETHING TO EAT.

HMM?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? ARE YOU GUYS HUNGRY?

HEARING YOU SAY THAT MAKES ME A LITTLE HUNGRY TOO.
BUT I'M SUPER HUNGRY. .


OH WELL, IT CAN'T BE HELPED... I'LL MAKE RICE BALLS FOR YOU GUYS.
EMPTY STOMACH

THAT'LL TAKE QUITE A WHILE...
SO WAIT A BIT, WILL YOU.
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FIRST, I'VE GOT TO COOK SOME RICE
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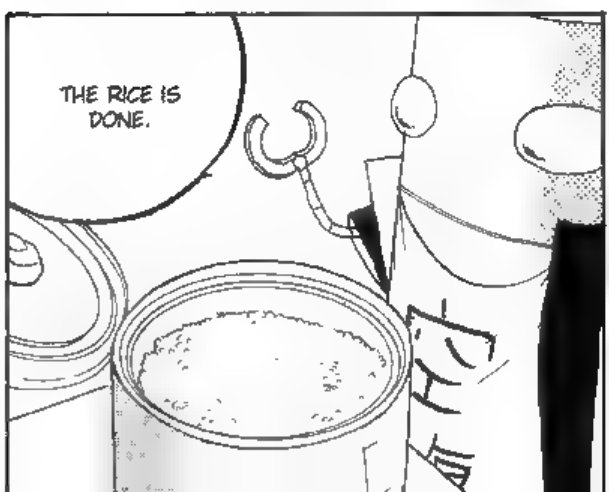
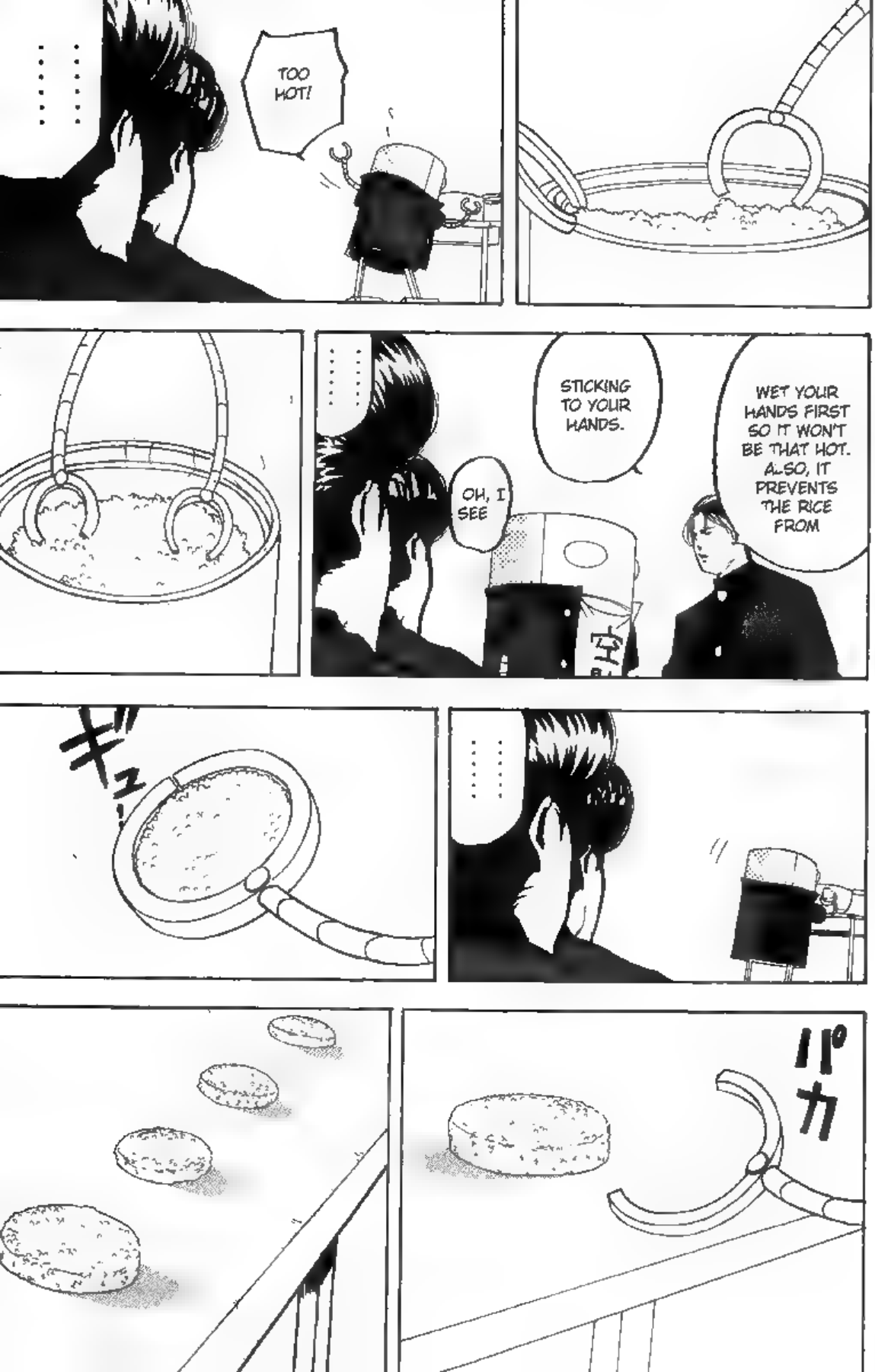

THE RICE IS DONE.


TOO HOT!
WET YOUR HANDS FIRST SO IT WON'T BE THAT HOT. ALSO, IT PREVENTS THE RICE FROM
STICKING TO YOUR HANDS.
OH, I SEE
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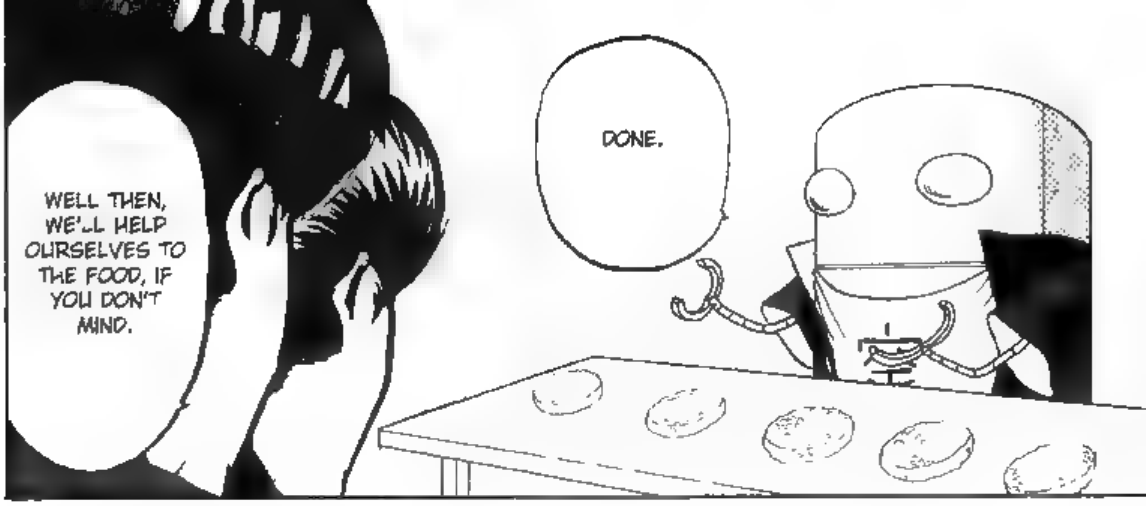
WELL THEN, WE'LL HELP OURSELVES TO THE FOOD, IF YOU DON'T MIND.
DONE.

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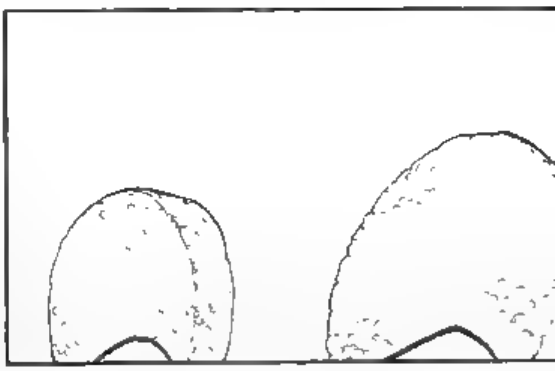
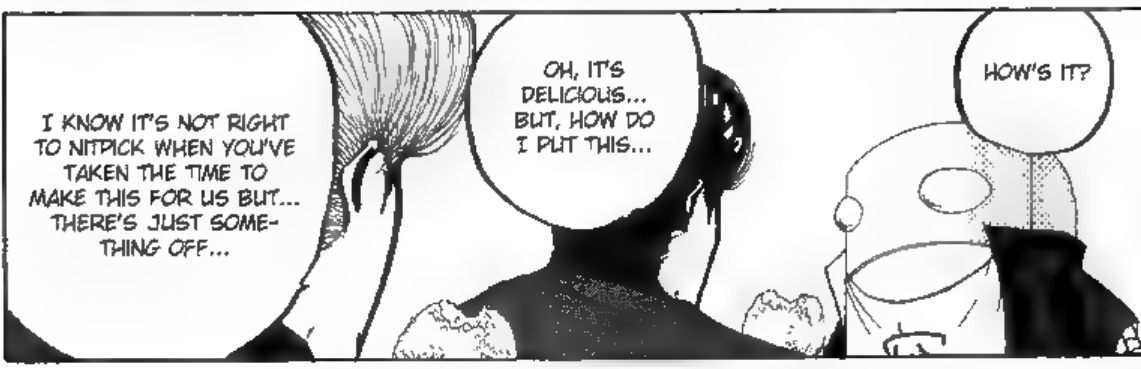
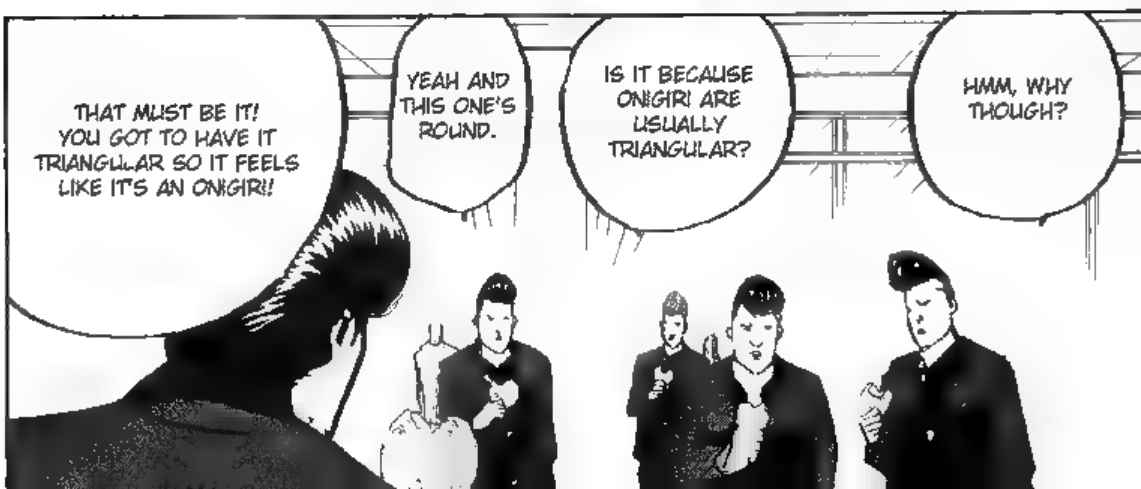
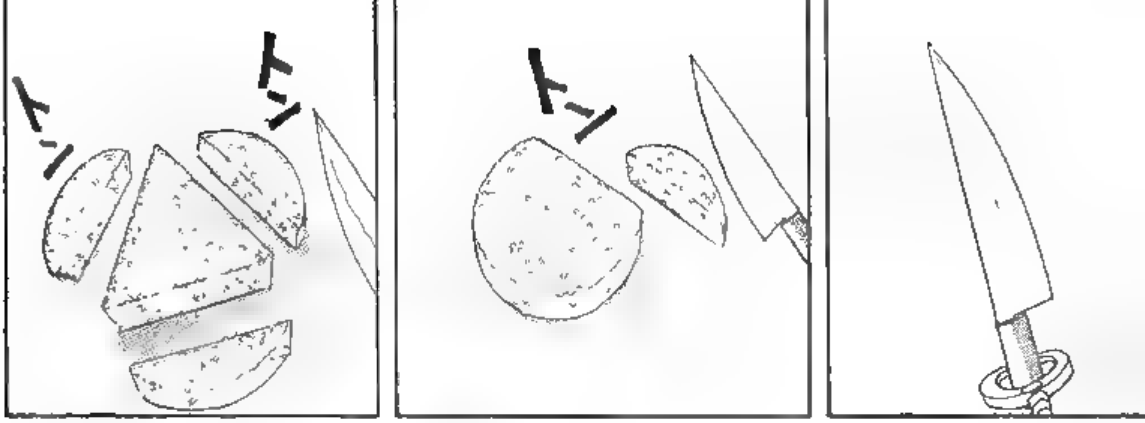
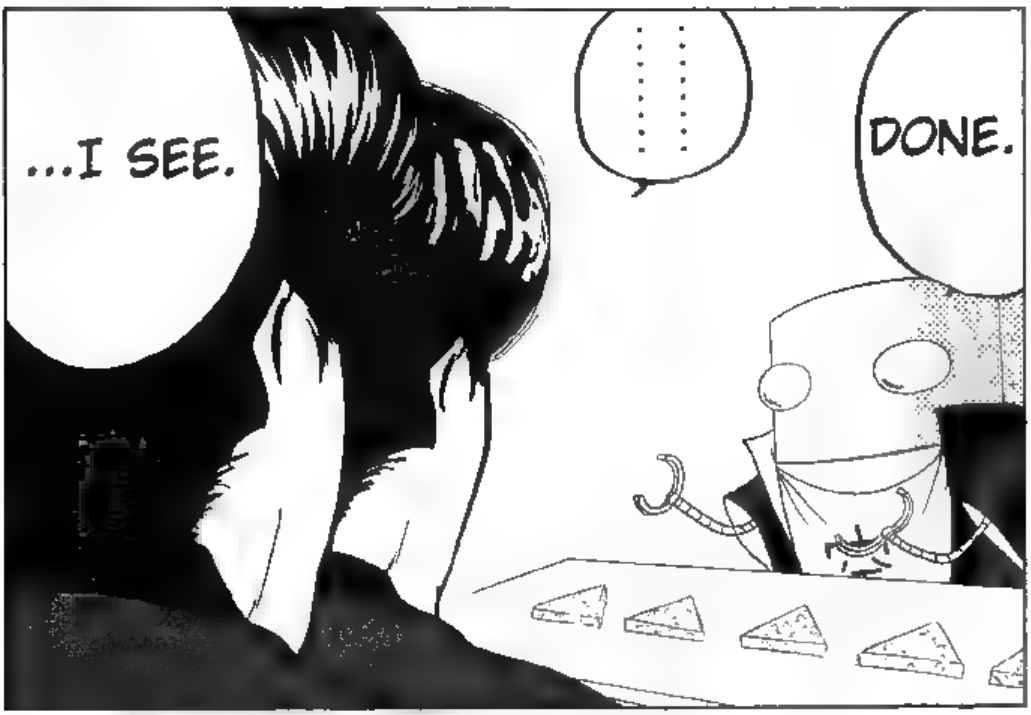



I KNOW IT'S NOT RIGHT TO NITPICK WHEN YOU'VE TAKEN THE TIME TO MAKE THIS FOR US BUT... THERE'S JUST SOMETHING OFF...
OH, IT'S DELICIOUS... BUT, HOW DO I PUT THIS...
HOW'S IT?

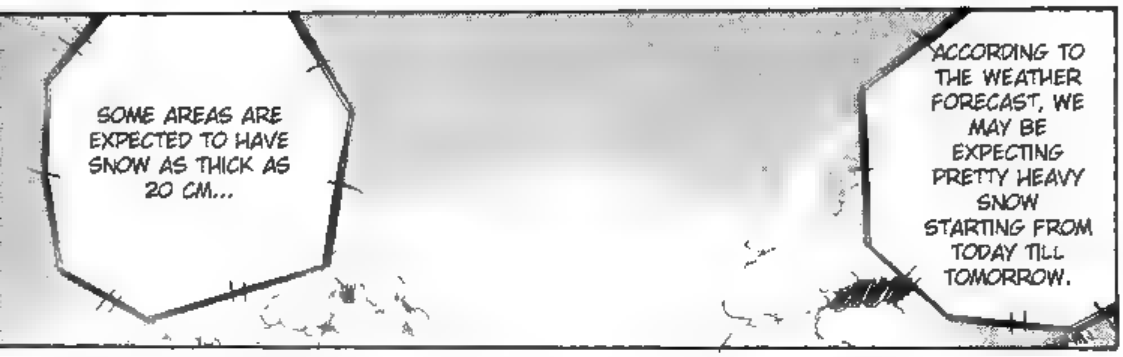

THAT MUST BE IT! YOU GOT TO HAVE IT TRIANGULAR SO IT FEELS LIKE IT'S AN ONIGIRI!
YEAH AND THIS ONE'S ROUND.
IS IT BECAUSE ONIGIRI ARE USUALLY TRIANGULAR?
HMM, WHY THOUGH?

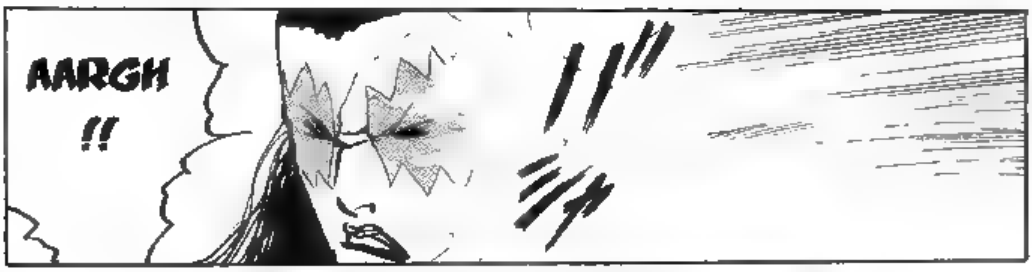
...AH, WE'RE REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS, MECHAZAWA...
RIGHT THEN, LET'S GIVE IT ANOTHER GO.
TOO HOT!
HOW'S HE GOING TO PROCEDE NEXT?
BUT...
SO FAR LOOKS THE SAME AS JUST NOW





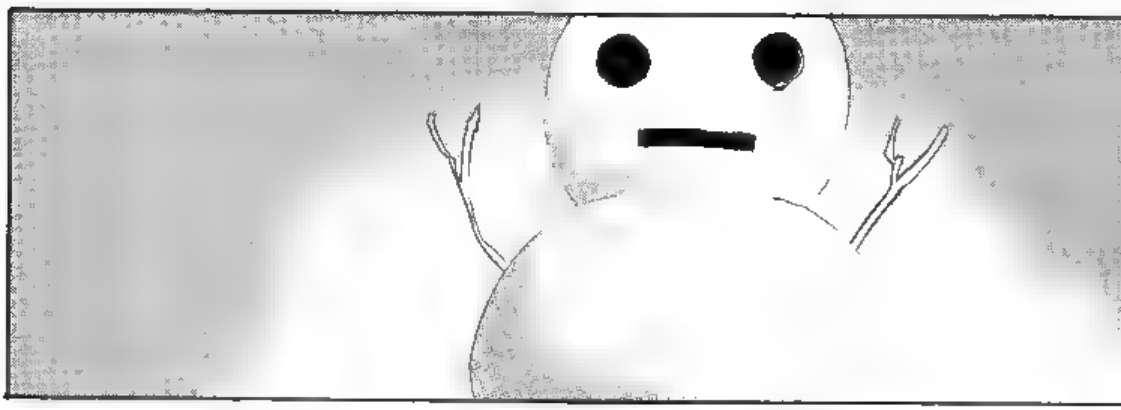
THERE YOU HAVE IT, MECHAZAWA'S 3 MIN QUICK COOK.


SOME AREAS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE SNOW AS THICK AS 20 CM...
ACCORDING TO THE WEATHER FORECAST, WE MAY BE EXPECTING PRETTY HEAVY SNOW STARTING FROM TODAY TILL TOMORROW.

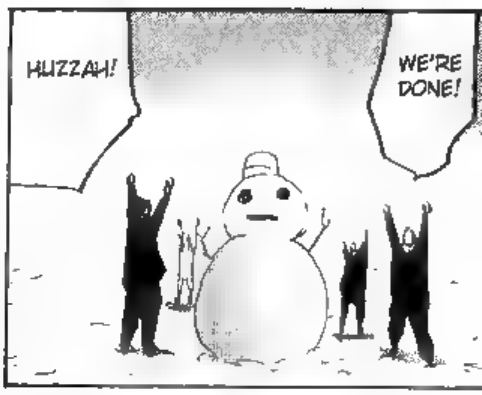


第276話 Snow White & The Five Men

I'LL JOIN IN!
YEAH!!
RIGHT, LET'S BUILD A SNOWMAN!



OOH!!
NEXT, THE SLED!


HUZZAH!
WE'RE DONE!

THIS IS FREAKING COOL!!
THIS IS AWESOME !!
HELL YEAH!
YEAH !!
OK, LET'S BUILD A SNOW HUT NEXT!
OK! LET'S GET INSIDE!!
HUZZAH! WE'RE DONE!
THIS IS FREAKING COOL!!
THIS IS AWESOME!!

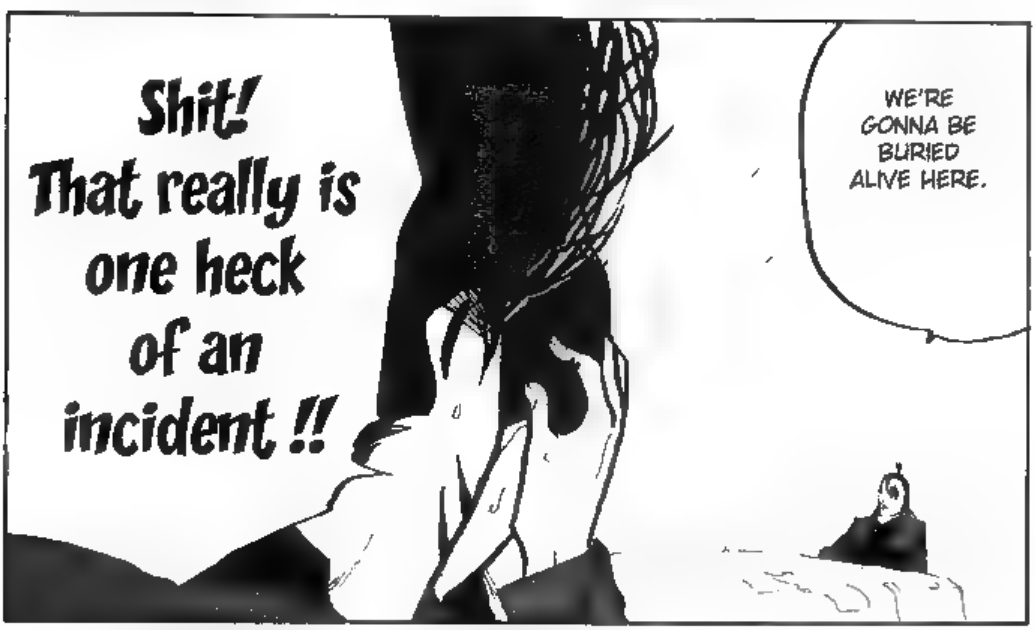
WHAT !?
WELL THEN, LET'S GET THE MEETING STARTED.
.....

THAT'S RIGHT! WE FINALLY FOUND A CHANCE TO RELIEVE A BIT OF OUR CHILDHOOD DAYS AND YOU HAVE TO RUIN IT BY BRINGING US BACK TO REALITY!!
What's more you even got a table ready!!
INDEED! SHEESH !!
STOP IT WILL YOU, LEADER!! EVEN IF YOU REALLY GOT TO HAVE A MEETING, WHY'S IT GOT TO BE TODAY!?

YOU'RE PRACTICALLY LEAVING YOURSELVES WIDE OPEN.
HMPF... ALL OF YOU ARE STILL MERE GREENHORNS!
IT PAINS ME TO REALIZE THAT I'M STILL FAR FROM ATTAINING THE LEADER'S STATE OF MIND... DAMN.
YEAH...WE WERE... CARELESS...
MAN...YOU CERTAINLY CAUGHT US OFF GUARD...
YOU'RE WRONG TO THINK THAT SINCE IT'S TODAY, THERE WON'T BE A MEETING. SUCH A NAIVE WAY OF THINKING.
NO, WAIT...I DON'T RECALL KNOWING ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
BY JOINING US, YOU SHOULD ALREADY KNOW THAT BY NOW, RIGHT.
WE CAN'T START THE DAY WITHOUT OUR MEETINGS,
BUT THINK ABOUT IT FURTHER...BEING A MAN WHO IS WILLING TO AND CAPABLE OF RATIONALIZING BEFORE TAKING ACTIONS...ISN'T THAT WHAT IT SHOULD BE LIKE TO BE A TRUE MAN WHO IS BORN AND RAISED IN TOKYO?
EXACTLY! YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.
BESIDES, ISN'T IT RATHER ODD FOR DELINQUENTS TO BE HAVING A MEETING...?

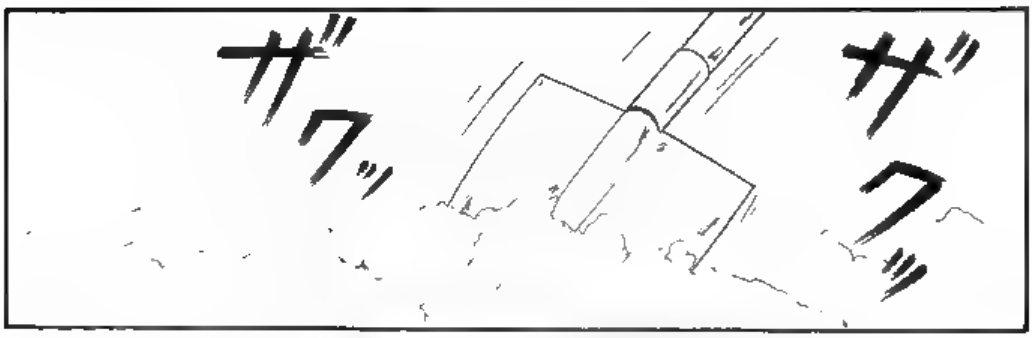
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING ABOUT, LEADER?
KU KU KU
WELL, WHEN IT COMES TO THE WAY OF LIFE, I GUESS THERE ARE SOME SIMILARITIES WHEN COMPARED TO TOKYO ROCK STARS... I GUESS?
NO WAIT, BEING A TOKYOITE HASN'T GOT ANYTHING TO DO WITH BEING A THUG OR GANGSTER, HAS IT?
Crap, we unknowingly did end up doing it!
shit!
LOOK AT HOW YOU GUYS HAVING A DISCUSSION. AREN'T WE ALREADY CONDUCTING THE MEETING RIGHT NOW?
IS... IS THAT HOW IT IS?
IT'S THESE MEETINGS THAT GIVE US THE SPICES OF OUR LIFE.
SO YOU GET IT NOW RIGHT? EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD... THEY ALL START FROM CONDUCTING A MEETING.
WHAT? ...REALLY!?
THAT, TOO IS A WRONG WAY OF THINKING.
AS AN ASIDE, YOU KNOW HOW TVS LIKE SAYING THINGS LIKE "NOTHING HAPPENS DURING MEETINGS"?

WHOA, HOLD IT, LEADER
NO, YOU COULD EVEN SAY THAT THE MEETING ITSELF IS THE INCIDENT.
THE INCIDENTS REALLY DID BEGAN IN THE MEETING ROOM ITSELF!
INDEED, I DO.
...BUT IN THE MEETING ROOM ITSELF?
YOU MEAN THAT THE INCIDENTS DO NOT OCCUR AT THE SCENE WHERE IT'S FOUND
OH, BUT IT DID.
YEAH, SAYING SOMETHING ABSURD LIKE THAT!
HEY, HOLD YOUR HORSES...
YOU GUYS SURE ARE PERSISTENT...
OH WELL, LOOK BEHIND YOU.
EVEN IF YOU'RE THE LEADER, YOU BETTER BE ABLE TO GIVE US A CONVINCING EXPLANATION!
HOW IS THE MEETING ROOM THE ACTUAL PLACE OF THE INCIDENT?



IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING, IT'S AMAZING HOW HE'S ABLE TO TAKE THIS SO CALMLY.

第277話 Minus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WELL, WHAT CAN I SAY, I ALWAYS LIKE TO BE PREPARED YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU'LL RUN INTO EMERGENCIES LIKE THESE.
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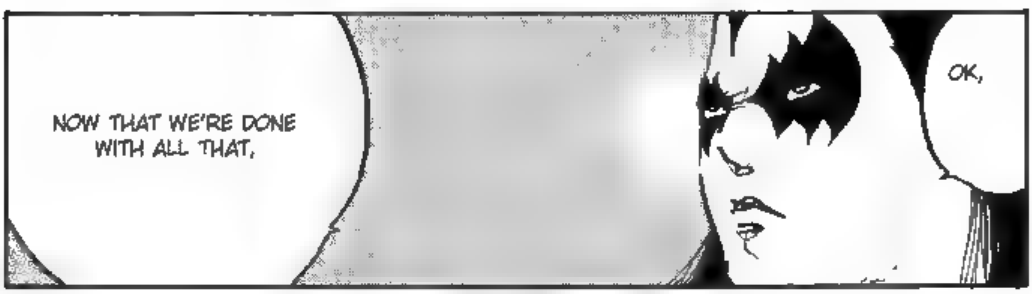
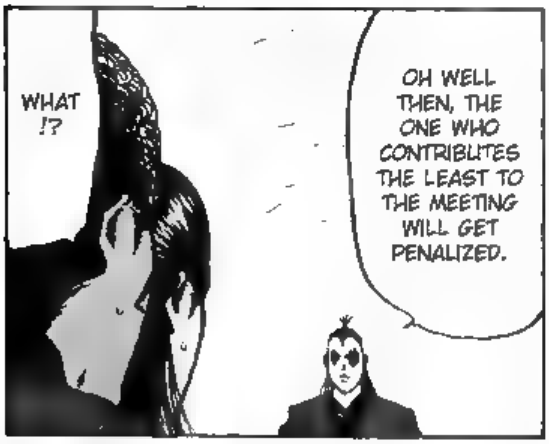
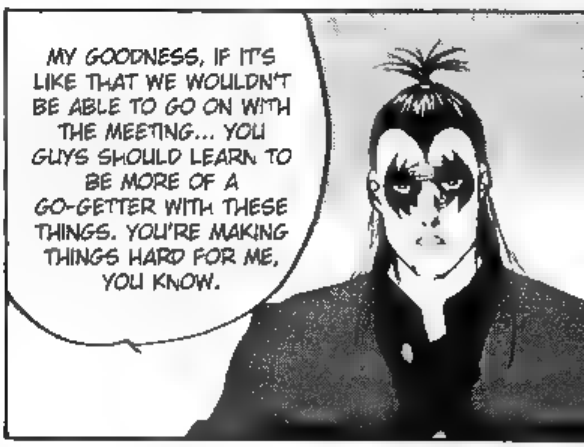
MAN, FOR A MOMENT, I THOUGHT WE'RE SCREWED.
THANK GOODNESS YOU'VE GOT A SHOVEL...

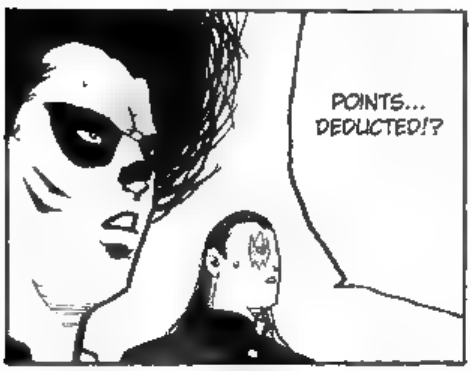

NOW THAT WE'RE DONE WITH ALL THAT,
OK,

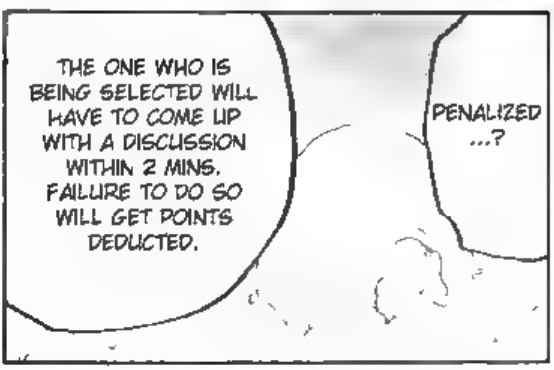
...is there really a need for that at this time!?
LET'S BEGIN THE MEETING.

SO FRANKLY, WE'RE KINDA TIRED NOW.
WELL, WE DID SPEND QUITE A BIT OF TIME SHOVELLING SNOW.
AREN'T YOU GUYS GETTING TOO FULL OF YOURSELVES? MOUTHING OFF TO ME SO MUCH BEFORE WE EVEN GOT THE MEETING STARTED.

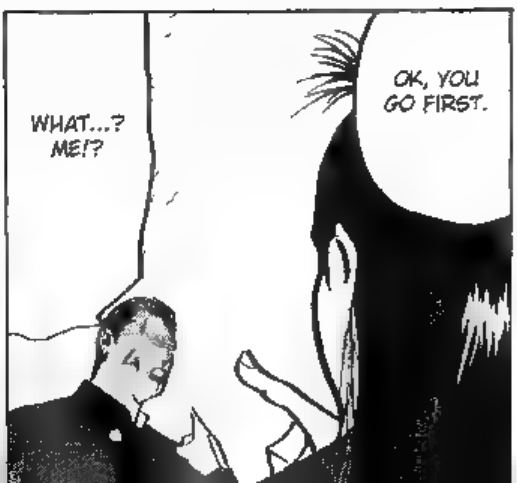

WHAT !?
OH WELL THEN, THE ONE WHO CONTRIBUTES THE LEAST TO THE MEETING WILL GET PENALIZED.


MY GOODNESS, IF IT'S LIKE THAT WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GO ON WITH THE MEETING... YOU GUYS SHOULD LEARN TO BE MORE OF A GO-GETTER WITH THESE THINGS. YOU'RE MAKING THINGS HARD FOR ME, YOU KNOW.


POINTS... DEDUCTED!?

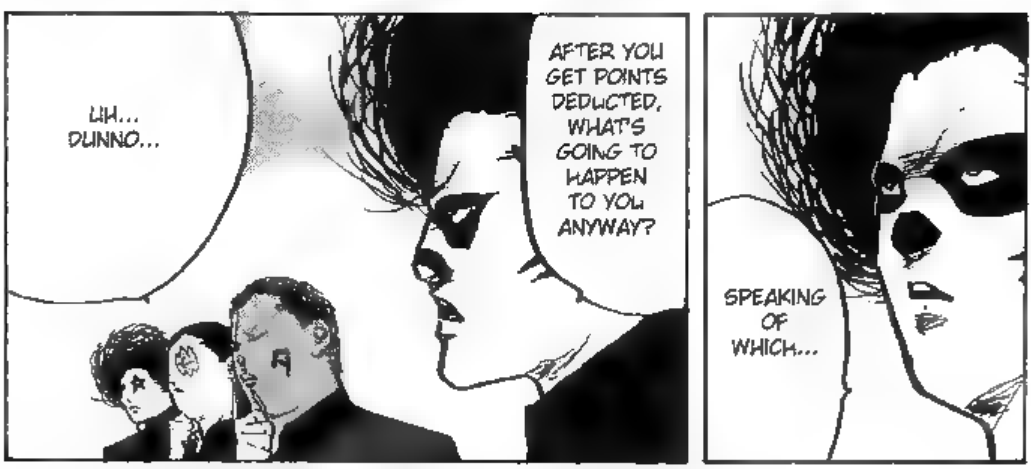

THE ONE WHO IS BEING SELECTED WILL HAVE TO COME UP WITH A DISCUSSION WITHIN 2 MINS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL GET POINTS DEDUCTED.
PENALIZED ...?

UH.... UMM...
CRAP, WHAT SHOULD I SAY...
UH, AH...


WHAT...? ME!?
OK, YOU GO FIRST.

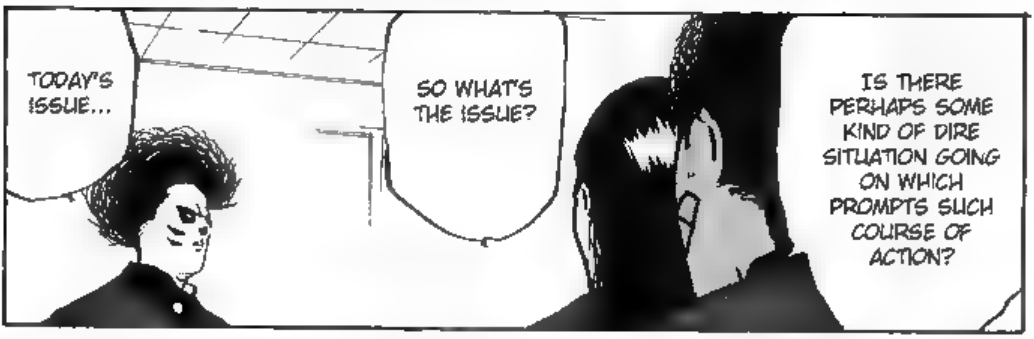
1 MINUTE PASSED AND YOU'VE STILL GOT NOTHING TO CONTRIBUTE...
OH SHIT !!
OK, TIME'S UP.
WHAT .!? 5 POINTS?
MINUS 5 POINTS.
ENOUGH. THAT'S A PATHETIC SIGHT.
HOLD IT, I'LL START CONTRIBUTING NOW!! COME ON, MAN!
NO WAY!! 5 POINTS IN ONE SHOT!!
WAIT A MINUTE!!
I'M DONE.
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT LOSING POINTS, THEN YOU BETTER BE MORE PREPARED FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

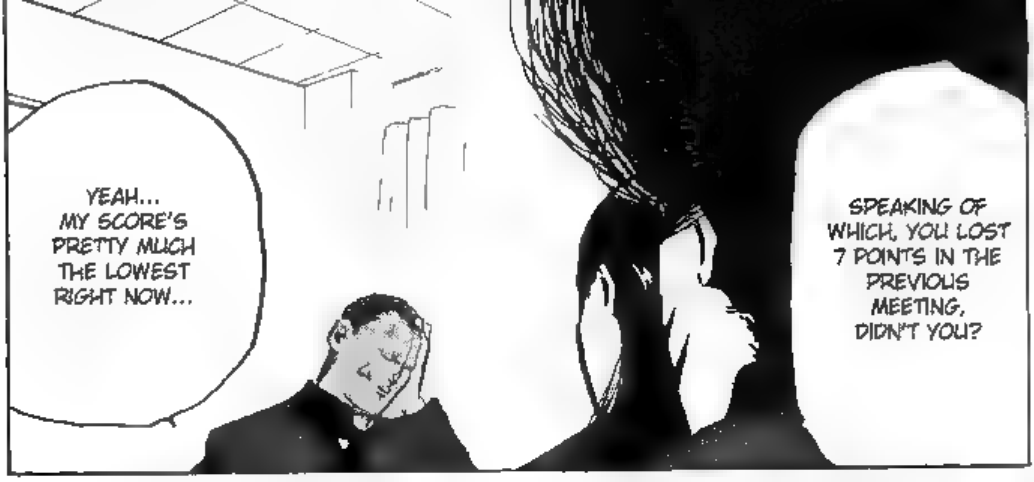
ANYWAY, TAKING THAT INTO CONSIDERATION, WE DON'T WANT IT HAPPENING ANYMORE, YEAH?
MAN, I DIDN'T EXPECT SO MANY POINTS TO BE DEDUCTED AT ONCE...
LOSING 5 POINTS RIGHT OF THE BAT...

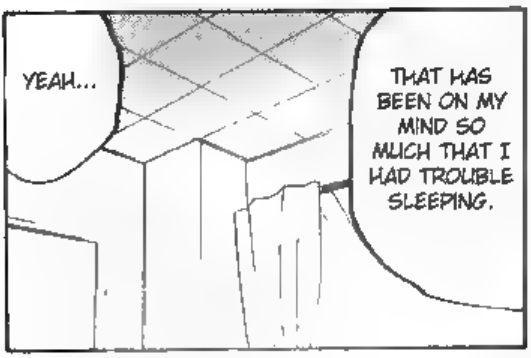


EH, SO THERE'S NOTHING TO REALLY WORRY ABOUT THEN!!

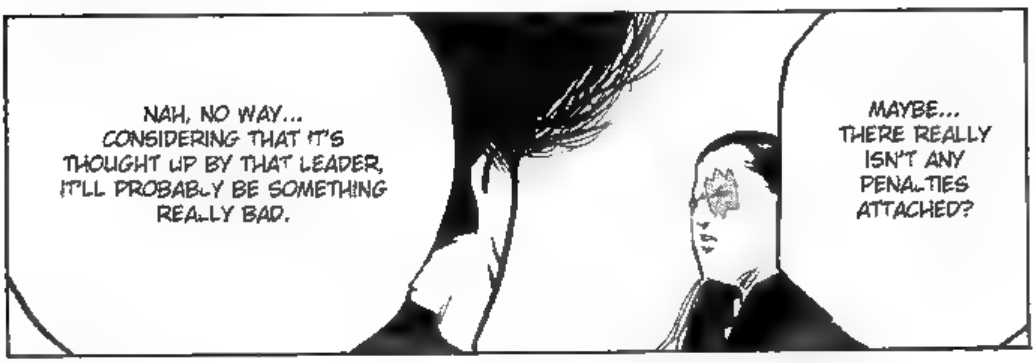
第278話 Capital Punishment


IS THERE PERHAPS SOME KIND OF DIRE SITUATION GOING ON WHICH PROMPTS SUCH COURSE OF ACTION?
SO WHAT'S THE ISSUE?
TODAY'S ISSUE...


YEAH... MY SCORE'S PRETTY MUCH THE LOWEST RIGHT NOW...
SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU LOST 7 POINTS IN THE PREVIOUS MEETING, DIDN'T YOU?


YEAH...
THAT HAS BEEN ON MY MIND SO MUCH THAT I HAD TROUBLE SLEEPING.

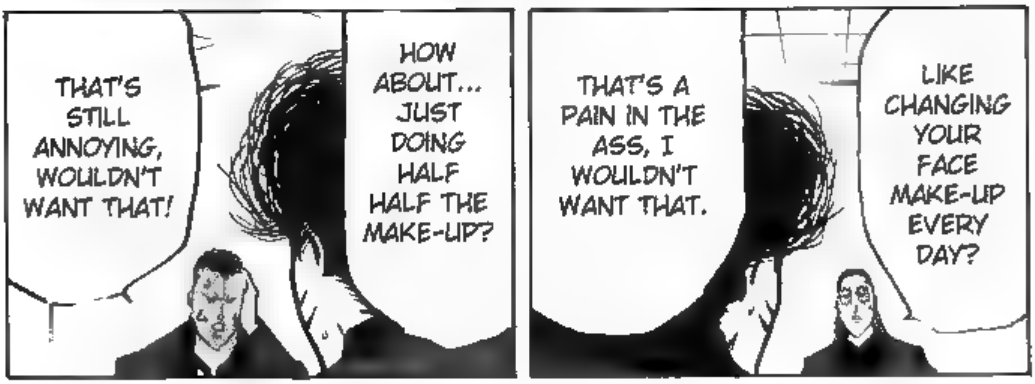
BUT THE ONE THAT BUGS ME THE MOST IS, WHAT SORT OF PENALTIES DO YOU GET FOR BEING THE LOWEST...?

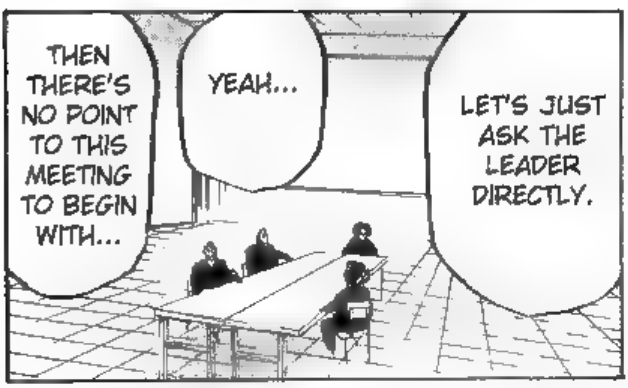

NAH, NO WAY... CONSIDERING THAT IT'S THOUGHT UP BY THAT LEADER, IT'LL PROBABLY BE SOMETHING REALLY BAD.
MAYBE... THERE REALLY ISN'T ANY PENALTIES ATTACHED?

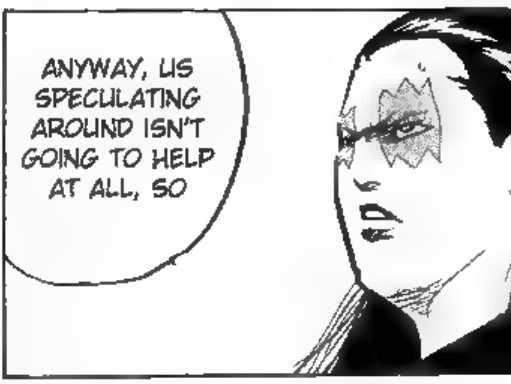
MAN, THAT SOUNDS REALLY BAD... DAMMIT.
YEAH, I BET IT'S GOING TO BE TO THE PAIN.
I'M GUESSING IT'S GONNA BE SOMETHING REALLY CRINGE-WORTHY.

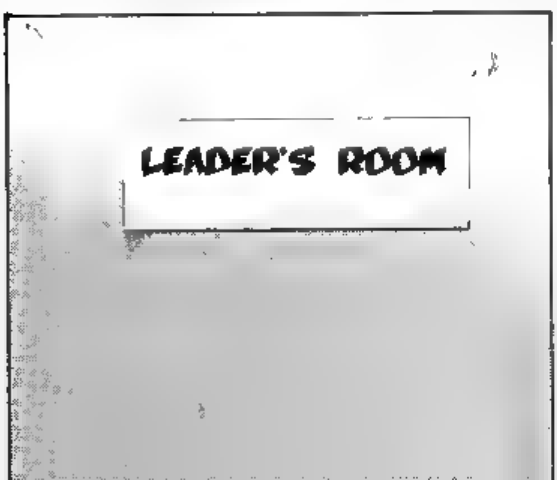
BEING KICKED OUT OF THE 4 HEAVENLY KINGS.
NAH, THAT'S MORE LIKE A GOOD THING, REALLY.
YEAH, THAT HARDLY COUNTS AS A PENALTY.
EH ?
LEADER PROBABLY ALREADY KNEW ABOUT THIS SO HE'S NOT GONNA LET US HAVE OUR WAY.
COULD IT BE THE OTHER WAY AROUND? WE CAN'T LEAVE THE 4 HEAVENLY KINGS FOR 10 YEARS?
WHOA, THAT IS HARSH !!
HMM, IF THAT REALLY IS THE CASE, THEN IT'S ONE HECK OF A PENALTY...
ASSUMING THAT IS REALLY THE CASE
HOW BAD WOULD IT BE FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME WHO HAS LOST 7 POINTS?
HMM.... IF I HAVE TO HAZARD A GUESS...

BUT WAIT, MAYBE THERE ARE WORSE PENALTIES?
BEAR WITH IT, MAN.
AWW SHIT, THAT'S ANNOYING.
GOTTO BE AROUND FOR AN ENTIRE WEEK AT LEAST?


THAT'S STILL ANNOYING, WOULDN'T WANT THAT!
HOW ABOUT... JUST DOING HALF HALF THE MAKE-UP?
THAT'S A PAIN IN THE ASS, I WOULDN'T WANT THAT.
LIKE CHANGING YOUR FACE MAKE-UP EVERY DAY?


THEN THERE'S NO POINT TO THIS MEETING TO BEGIN WITH...
YEAH...
LET'S JUST ASK THE LEADER DIRECTLY.


ANYWAY, US SPECULATING AROUND ISN'T GOING TO HELP AT ALL, SO


LEADER'S ROOM

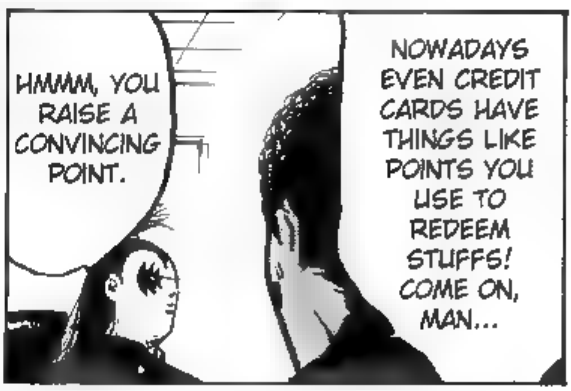
YEAH, SURE...
YOU LOSTT THE MOST POINTS, SO YOU SHOULD GO.

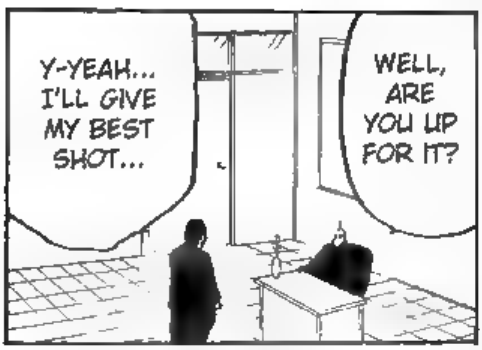
NOTHING MUCH, IT'S JUST THAT... WITH REGARDS TO THE POINT DEDUCTIONS,
OH, WHAT'S UP?
ガラー
PARDON THE INTRUSION...
WHAT!? NONE?
WELL, I HAVEN'T THOUGHT OF ANY.
HMM?
...OH THAT!
CONSIDERING THAT I'VE BEEN LOSING LOTS OF POINTS, I WAS JUST WONDERING WHAT SORT OF PENALTY DO YOU GIVE FOR BEING THE LOWEST.
WELL, NOW THAT YOU HAVE BROUGHT IT UP, THEN YES, I GUESS I DO NEED TO COME UP WITH PENALTY FOR YOU...
DAMN! I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED!
UNTIL YOU'VE BROUGHT IT UP, I'VE ACTUALLY FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT THAT.
NOW THEN, WHAT SORT OF PENALTY SHALL IT BE...
NO. DOING WHAT ONE HAS SAID TO DO IS AN IRON CLAD RULE AS THE 4 HEAVENLY KINGS.
UH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO DO THIS...

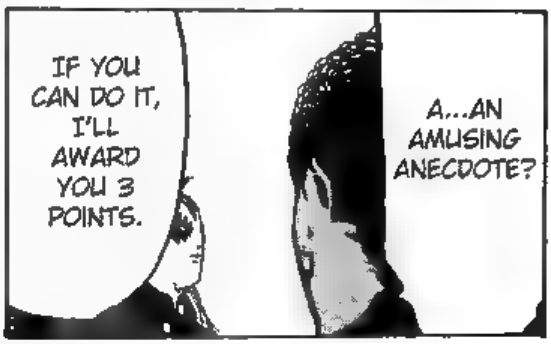
WHAT!? WAIT, HOLD ON A SECOND!! DISREGARD WHAT I JUST SAID!
AH! THAT SOUNDS GOOD! YEAP, WE'LL SETTLE ON THAT!
PLEASE DON'T TELL ME YOU'LL WANT ME TO JUST PUT ON HALF MY MAKE-UP...
AS EXPECTED OF THE LEADER, YOU HAVE NO OPENINGS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF....
I'VE SEEN THROUGH THAT ALREADY.
AND KEEP YOU FOOLS HAPPY? I THINK NOT.
UHM, WHY NOT JUST LET THE PUNISHMENT BE GETTING BOOTED OUT OF THE 4 HEAVENLY KINGS!?
HMPF, AS IF I'LL FALL FOR THAT.
LOSE 60 POINTS AND YOU DO AWAY WITH THE MAKE-UP ENTIRELY?
UH, SO IN OTHER WORDS,
OK, THAT'S IT. LOSE A TOTAL OF 30 POINTS AND YOU WEAR JUST HALF OF YOUR FACE PAINT.
CAN'T DO THAT.
HEY LEADER, RESTORE MY SCORE TO ZERO AGAIN, WILL YA?
NO WAY! YOU GOT TO BE KIDDING!
Just left with this part
LOSE 60 POINTS AND YOU WIPE OFF HALF OF WHAT REMAINS.

CAN'T YOU JUST GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE? PLEASE! I WON'T SCREW IT UP THIS TIME!
BUT DUDE, EVEN CRIMINALS THESE DAYS ARE GIVEN A CHANCE TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF SO,

VERY WELL. IN THE NEXT MEETING, YOU GOT TO COME UP WITH AN AMUSING ANECDOTE.

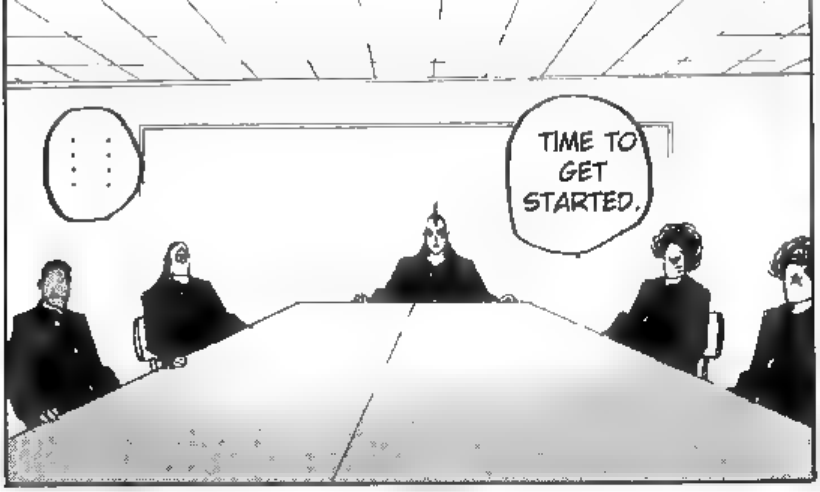

HMMM, YOU RAISE A CONVINCING POINT.
NOWADAYS EVEN CREDIT CARDS HAVE THINGS LIKE POINTS YOU USE TO REDEEM STUFFS! COME ON, MAN...


Y-YEAH... I'LL GIVE MY BEST SHOT...
WELL, ARE YOU UP FOR IT?


IF YOU CAN DO IT, I'LL AWARD YOU 3 POINTS.
A...AN AMUSING ANECDOTE?

OH OK, GOT IT...
SOMETIMES, WHAT YOU FOUND AMUSING MIGHT JUST TURN OUT TO BE BORING FOR OTHERS, SO YOU BETTER BE AWARE.

I'LL SAY THIS BEFOREHAND. COMING UP WITH AN INTERESTING ANECDOTE ISN'T AS EASY AS IT SEEMS.


TIME TO GET STARTED.

DAYS LATER

WHO HAS ANYTHING THEY'D LIKE TO SHARE?
RIGHT,

UH...
I DO!
HERE!
HERE!

...YOU GO ON.
STOP MES-SING AROUND !!

I ALREADY SAID I DO!
ANY-

A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO, I WAS AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE
コホン！
OH, LET'S HEAR IT.
SO I THOUGHT I'LL SHARE IT WITH YOU GUYS.
AND I CHANCED UPON SOMETHING WHICH I FOUND AMUSING
ANYWAY, I WAS QUEUING UP AND THERE WAS SOMEONE ELSE IN FRONT OF ME.
AND IT WAS ONLY AFTER HE GOT HOME THAT HE REALIZED THAT IT WASN'T THE FILLING HE REQUESTED.
APPARENTLY, HE WAS HERE A WEEK AGO TO BUY SOME MEAT BUNS...

HOWEVER, THE SHOPKEEPER SAID:
...SO WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THE BUNS THEN, SIR?
SO, WHAT NOW?
ANYWAY, IT TURNS OUT THAT CUSTOMER WAS THERE TO LODGE A COMPLAINT TO THE SHOPKEEPER
SO, WHAT HAP-PENED AFTER THAT?
YEAH, THE SHOPKEEPER SAID HE CAN'T OFFER A REFUND IN THAT CASE.
I SEE... THEN THAT CAN'T BE HELPED.
I'VE EATEN IT OF COURSE.
AND THE CUSTOMER REPLIED AS SUCH
. . . . . .
THIS TIME YOU ORDER SOME BEAN PASTE BUNS
SIR, HOW ABOUT WE DO THIS,
THE SHOPKEEPER THEN OFFERED A SUGGESTION
. . . . . .
THAT SHOULD EVEN THINGS OUT.
BUT I'LL GIVE YOU MEAT BUNS INSTEAD.

ISN'T IT!?
AHAHA!! THAT WAS PRETTY AMUSING!!
HAHA HAHA!! WHAT A SILLY STORY!!
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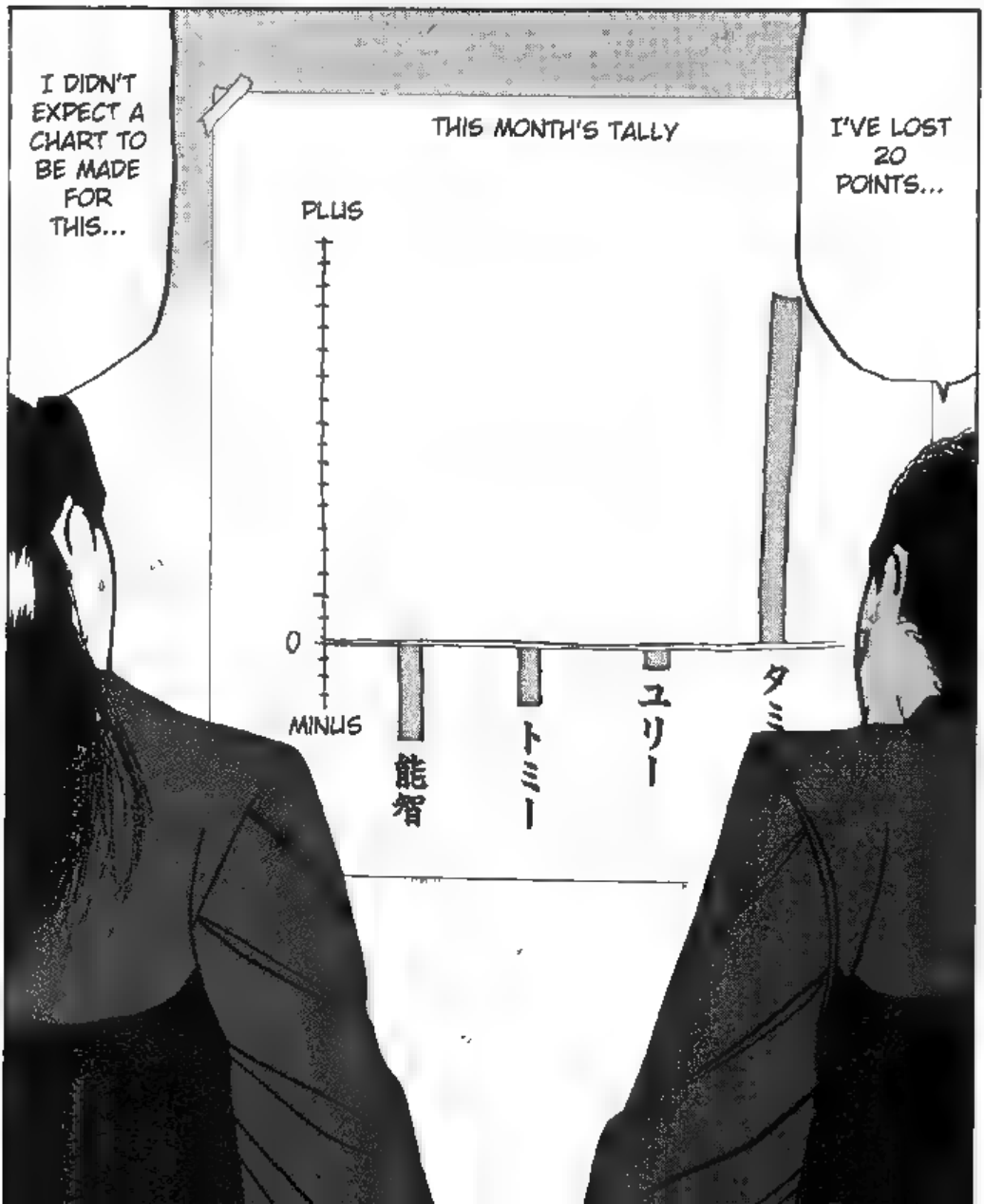
MAN, HOW DO I PUT IT, THE CUSTOMER SURE IS A HANDFUL! HAHAHAHA!!
I KNOW RIGHT? WHAT A SILLY CUSTOMER! HAHAHAHA!!
HAHAHAHA!! BE IT THE SHOPKEEPER OR THE CUSTOMER... HAHA WOW!!
SO...WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THE STORY, LEADER!
MAN, THANK GOODNESS YOU GUYS ENJOYED IT!
HEY, THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD ONE, YOU'VE GOT THERE!
HMM? WHAT IS IT?
HMM, WHETHER IT'S AMUSING OR NOT...WELL, PUTTING ASIDE, THERE'S JUST ONE THING I'D LIKE TO SAY...
IT'S PRETTY AMUSING RIGHT? AND THE OTHERS THINK SO TOO!!

PERHAPS HE DID FIND IT AMUSING.

第279話 Universally Speaking



今月の減点表
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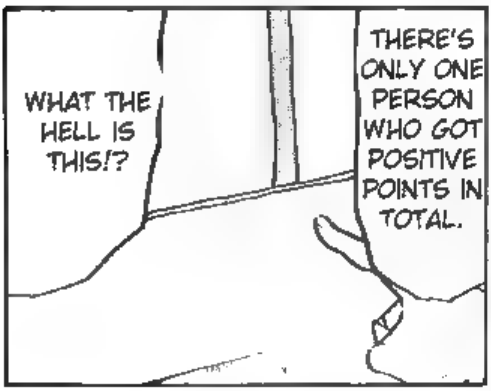
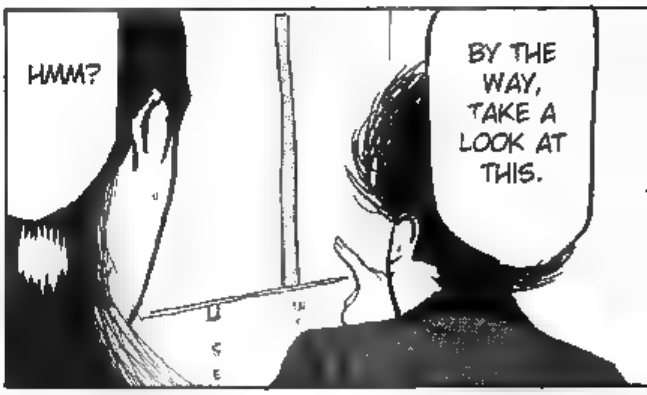
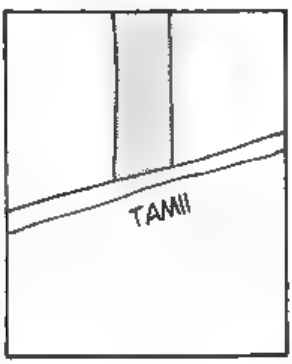
YEAH, IT MAKES US SEEM LIKE WE'RE NOT IN SCHOOL ANYMORE...
MAKES ME FEEL LIKE AN OFFICE WORKER WHO FAILED HIS PERFORMANCE REVIEW...


WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!?
THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON WHO GOT POSITIVE POINTS IN TOTAL.


HMM?
BY THE WAY, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.

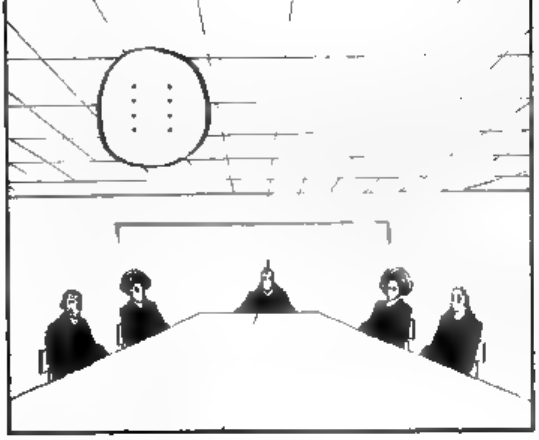
THAT'S ...?

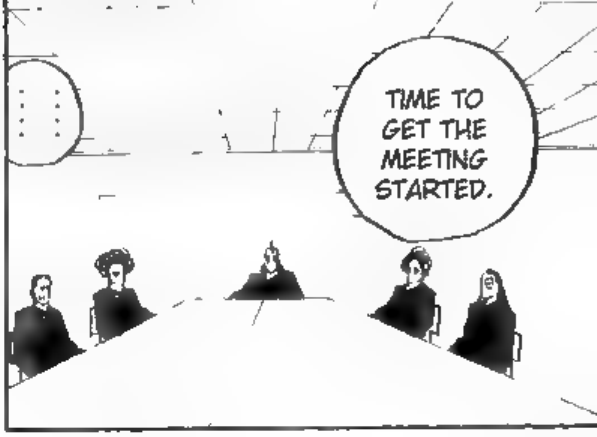

TAMII

WHO THE HECK IS THAT...?

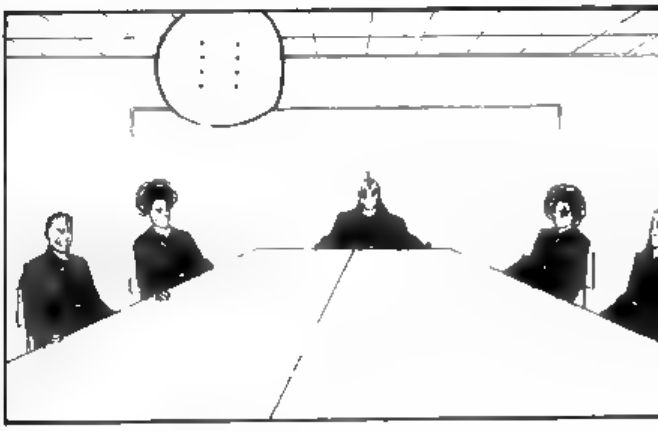
YOUR SENSE OF PRESENCE IS SO THIN THESE DAYS WE ALMOST FORGOT YOUR NAME!
YEAH.
...IT WAS YOU!!

AND...DID YOU EVEN CONTRIBUTE IN THE MEETINGS? I DON'T EVEN RECALL YOU SPEAKING UP, SO HOW THE HELL DID YOU DO THAT? SHARE SOME TIPS WITH US WILL YA?
BUT HOW IS THAT YOU MANAGE TO GET SO MUCH POINTS DESPITE YOUR LACK OF A SENSE OF PRESENCE?
IS THAT SO? MY BAD.
JUST HOW THE HELL!?
THEN WHY...?
..I DIDN'T REALLY SAY ANY-THING IN PARTICU-LAR.
. . . .
HUH?
I SEE...
HMM...
WELL THEN,
THE NEXT DAY

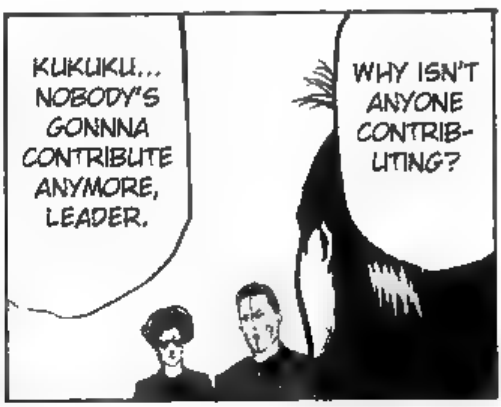



TIME TO GET THE MEETING STARTED.

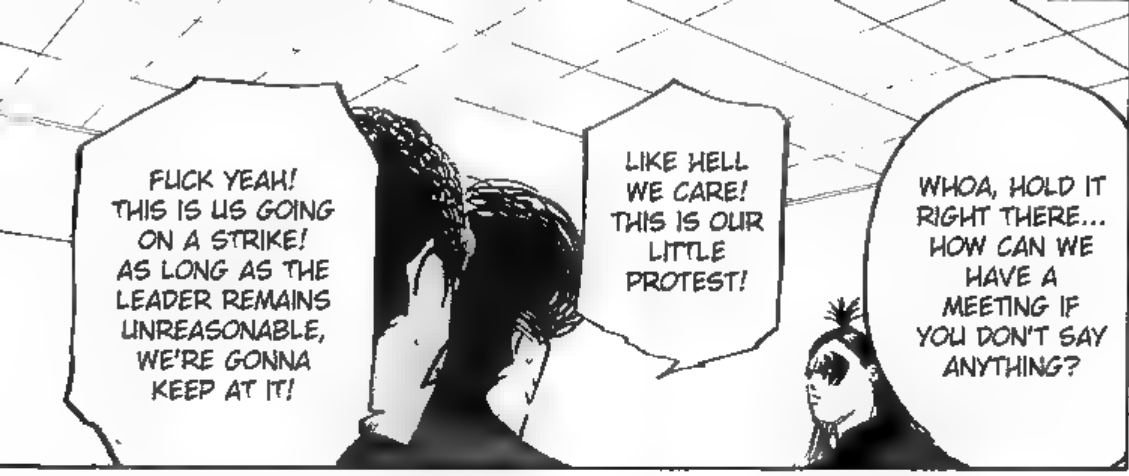
HMM? WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH ALL OF YOU?



WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WE'VE THOROUGHLY ANALYSED HOW WE CAN PREVENT OURSELVES FROM GETTING OUR POINTS DEDUCTED

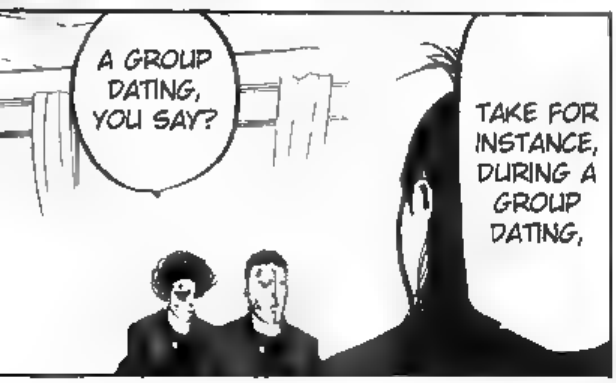

WHY ISN'T ANYONE CONTRIB-UTING?
KUKUKU... NOBODY'S GONNNA CONTRIBUTE ANYMORE, LEADER.

THAT'S RIGHT! INSTEAD OF ***SAYING THE WRONG THINGS AND DIGGING OUR OWN GRAVES,*** IT'D BE BETTER TO JUST NOT SAY ANYTHING AT ALL!
AND THAT IS TO NOT CONTRIBUTE ANYTHING AT ALL!

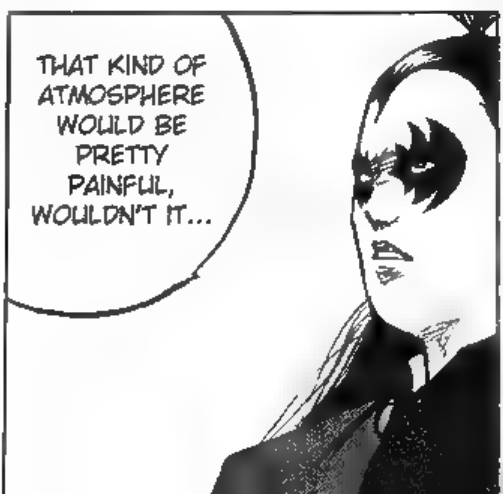

FUCK YEAH! THIS IS US GOING ON A STRIKE! AS LONG AS THE LEADER REMAINS UNREASONABLE, WE'RE GONNA KEEP AT IT!
LIKE HELL WE CARE! THIS IS OUR LITTLE PROTEST!
WHOA, HOLD IT RIGHT THERE... HOW CAN WE HAVE A MEETING IF YOU DON'T SAY ANYTHING?

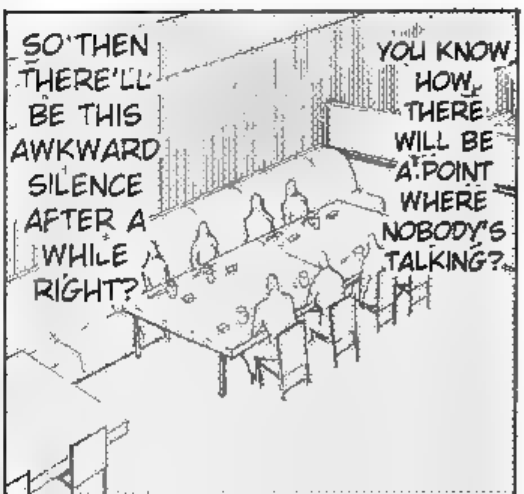
THAT'S... THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU AT ALL!
HUH? AREN'T YOU GIVING IN TOO QUICKLY?
VERY WELL THEN. YOU CAN CONTINUE TO KEEP QUIET.

HOW'S THAT, LEADER! WATCHA GONNA DO ABOUT IT?


A GROUP DATING, YOU SAY?
TAKE FOR INSTANCE, DURING A GROUP DATING,

PFFT... LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING. KEEPING QUIET AND NOT SAYING ANYTHING AT ALL ISN'T AS EASY AS IT SEEMS.

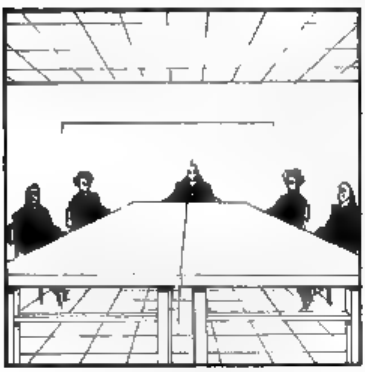

THAT KIND OF ATMOSPHERE WOULD BE PRETTY PAINFUL, WOULDN'T IT...

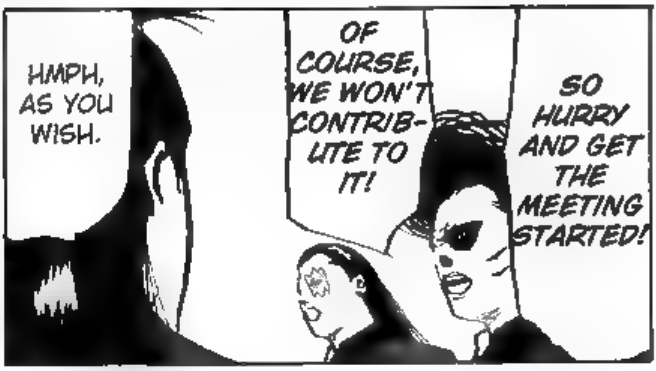

SO THEN THERE'LL BE THIS AWKWARD SILENCE AFTER A WHILE RIGHT?
YOU KNOW HOW THERE WILL BE A POINT WHERE NOBODY'S TALKING?

CRUD! IT'S JUST AS YOU SAID!!
GAAH! YOU GOT US RIGHT WHERE IT HURTS MOST!
THAT'S WHEN SOMEONE WHO WILL TRY AS HARD AS POSSIBLE TO COME UP WITH A TOPIC TO BREAK THE ICE. BECAUSE, FACE IT, THERE'S BOUND TO BE PEOPLE LIKE YOU GUYS WHO SIMPLY CAN'T JUST SIT STILL.

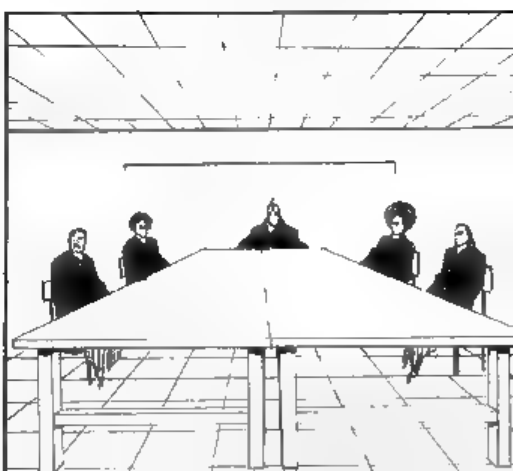
THIS IS IT! WE'RE GONNA HOLD OUR SILENT PROTEST FROM NOW ON!!

GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF! DON'T GET TAKEN IN BY THE LEADER'S TRICKS!
AH CRAP, MY STANCE ON THIS IS WAVERING!! I REALLY WANT TO SAY SOMETHING...!!




HMPH, AS YOU WISH.
OF COURSE, WE WON'T CONTRIBUTE TO IT!
SO HURRY AND GET THE MEETING STARTED!

...HMM, BUT IT'S KINDA BORING IF NOBODY'S TALKING...



SO THE OTHER DAY, I WAS LYING DOWN IN MY ROOM WHEN I NOTICED SOMETHING -
.....
OH WELL, I'LL JUST TALK TO MYSELF THEN.

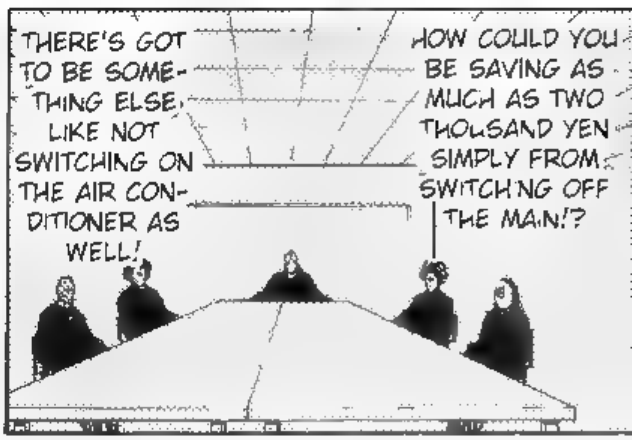
SO I WAS THINKING... WHAT A WASTE OF ELECTRICITY...
.....
THE LITTLE LIGHT NEAR THE TV SWITCH IS ON EVEN THOUGH MY TV IS OFF,

... AND THEN A FEW MONTHS LATER, I FOUND SOMETHING STARTLING...
.....
BUT IF I SWITCH OFF THE MAIN, IT'LL BE INCONVENIENT IF I CAN'T JUST SWITCH IT ON WITH A REMOTE. NEVERTHELESS, I THOUGHT, OH HECK, FOR THE SAKE OF SAVING ELECTRICITY, I'LL JUST BEAR WITH IT, SO I DID.

MY MONTHLY BILL HAD ACTUALLY REDUCED BY 2000 YEN...
.....

...NO WAY THAT'S EVEN POSSIBLE!!

...I REALLY WANT TO RETORT, BUT...!!


THERE'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING ELSE, LIKE NOT SWITCHING ON THE AIR CONDITIONER AS WELL!
HOW COULD YOU BE SAVING AS MUCH AS TWO THOUSAND YEN SIMPLY FROM SWITCHING OFF THE MAIN!?

HAVE I SWITCHED OFF THE GAS STOVE AT HOME?

AH! SPEAKING OF WHICH,

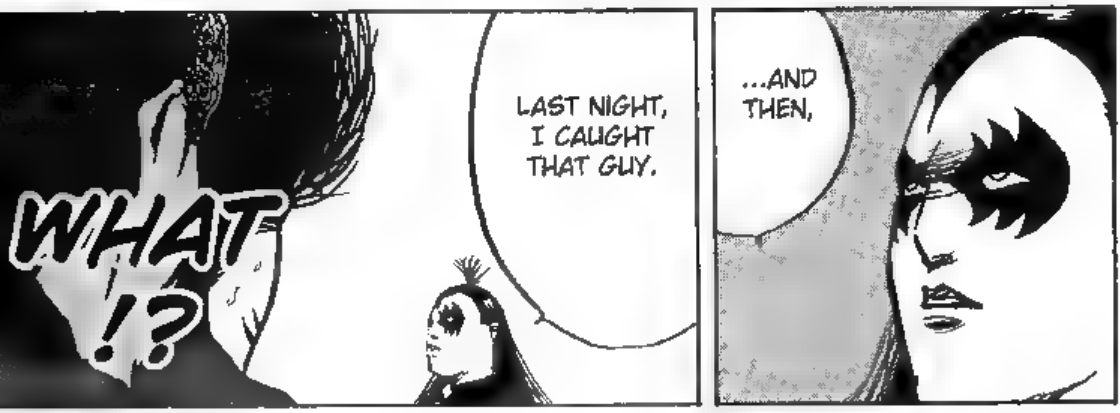
OH MY, HOW TROUBLING....

IT'LL BE A DISASTER IF A FIRE STARTED AND THERE'S NOBODY AT HOME...

OK
ジーコ
ジーコ…
AH...HEY, MOM?
HAS THE STOVE BEEN SWITCHED OFF?
THANK GOOD-NESS, SEEMS LIKE IT'S OFF.
...EVEN THOUGH THERE IS SOMEONE AT HOME!?
GOOD,
ケン!
BY THE WAY, I REALLY LIKE DRINKING APPLE JUICE.
...I REALLY WANT TO RETORT, BUT I CAN'T!! SHIT, THIS IS KILLING US!

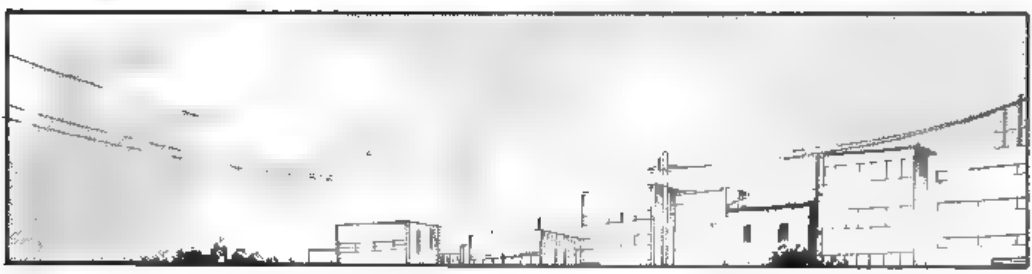
. . . . . .
OH, A WHILE AGO, FOR THE SAKE OF MY OWN HEALTH, I ALSO BOUGHT SOME VEGETABLE JUICE.
SO I BOUGHT MANY BOTTLES OF THEM... BUT I DRANK THEM ALL IN NO TIME AT ALL.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I TRY TO DRINK IT, THE AMOUNT OF VEGETABLE JUICE NEVER SEEM TO DECREASE. HOW BIZARRE...
HOWEVER, IT DIDN'T DECREASE AT ALL.
IT'S OBVIOUSLY BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T LIKE VEGETABLE JUICES SO YOU DIDN'T DRINK THEM AT ALL...
NOTICE THIS ALREADY, WILL YOU...
ARE YOU AN IDIOT... THE AMOUNT NEVER DECREASING DESPITE YOU CONSUMING IT, YOU SAY?
PERSONALLY, I'M SURE IT'S BECAUSE SOME-ONE HAS BEEN SECRETLY ADDING MORE JUICE.
. . . . . .
SO, DO YOU GUYS HAVE ANY IDEA AS TO WHY THE AMOUNT NEVER DECREASE?

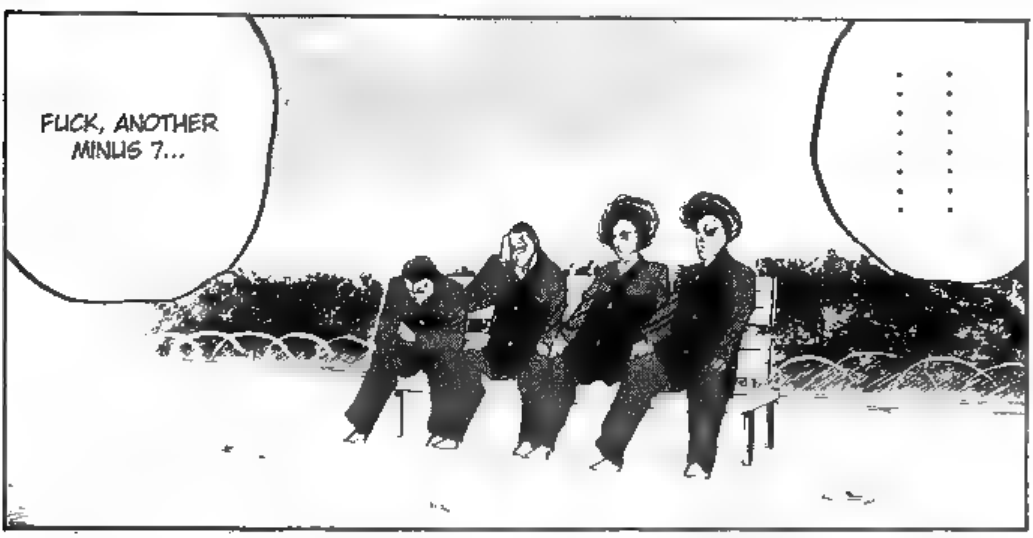
I THOUGHT HE'S GONNA COME UP WITH SOME COMPELLING EXPLANATION!
LIKE HELL WOULD THERE BE SOMEONE LIKE THAT, DAMN IT


WHAT!?
LAST NIGHT, I CAUGHT THAT GUY.
...AND THEN,

AND OF COURSE, I CONFRONTED HIM..."WHY THE HELL DID YOU DO THAT?"
C-CAUGHT ...? CAUGHT WHAT GUY...!?
WHAT'S WITH THIS UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT..
NOW I'M ACTUALLY GENUINELY INTERESTED IN THIS STORY!

AND THAT BASTARD REPLIED,





PLEASE CONTINUE WITH THE STORY!!

INTRODUCING THE NEW FIRST YEAR STUDENTS OF CROMARTIE HIGH SCHOOL !!

クロマニテイ高校新一年生のご紹介!!

共学、じゃなくて驚愕!! クロ高に新入生!!

Shocked that it's not a co-ed school! Here comes the new Cro High students!

TN: THERE'S A PUN HERE "CO-EDUCATION" AND "BEING IN SHOCK" ARE BOTH READ AS "KYOUGAKU"

SURPRISINGLY ENOUGH, THE STUDENTS OF CROMARTIE HIGH MANAGED TO ADVANCE A GRADE!! HERE, THERE'S NONE OF THOSE POINTLESS DRAMA, JUST SESSIONS OF LAID-BACK TALES IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FIELD. NATURALLY, WITH KAMIYAMA'S BUNCH BECOMING SECOND YEARS, THERE'S NOW A NEW GANG OF FIRST YEARS. LET'S INTRODUCE THEM HERE!!

ITOU KAI

ONE OF THE MORE NOTABLE FIRST YEAR AND ONE WITH MUCH TO EXPECT FROM IN THE FUTURE IS NONE OTHER THAN ITOU. HE IS NOTABLE ONLY BECAUSE HE "LOOKS SOMEWHAT LIKE A GORILLA" (LOL). FROM A CERTAIN PERSPECTIVE, HIS EXISTENCE IS VERY INTERESTING. HIS FIGHTING SKILLS EASILY PLACE HIM AROUND NUMBER 1 OR 2 AMONG THE FIRST YEARS. HOWEVER, PERCEPTIVE READERS WOULD HAVE REALIZED BY NOW THAT THINGS LIKE COMBAT PROWESS IS MEANINGLESS IN A MANGA LIKE THIS.

HIS CONSTANT GRUMBLES OF "EVEN THOUGH UNTIL NOW I'VE NEVER BEEN MISTAKEN AS A GORILLA" JUST MADE IT EASIER AS A MAGNET FOR GAGS AT HIS EXPENSES. THEN AGAIN, IT'S BECAUSE NORMAL SCHOOLS DON'T HAVE GORILLAS (LOL). SPEAKING OF WHICH, DID THE GORILLA MOVE UP TO THE NEXT GRADE AS WELL? OR DID IT JUST GO OFF TO THE SECOND YEARS' CLASSROOM ANYWAY?

NOW THAT'S AN INTRIGUING THOUGHT.

伊東海

MATSUDA SYUUSAKU

RUMOURED TO BE THE STRONGEST GUY AMONG THE FRESHMEN. THOSE WHO WERE INTIMIDATED BY HIS STRENGTH AND CAPACITY FOR CARNAGE HAVE THUS SURRENDERED TO HIM AS HIS UNDERLINGS AND FORMED THE "MATSUDA ARMY". HE VIEWS ITOU AS HIS RIVAL, CONSIDERING HIM TO BE A NUISANCE IN HIS PATH BUT EVEN THIS MAN HAS TROUBLE IDENTIFYING ITOU FROM A GORILLA.

ANDOU YOUJI

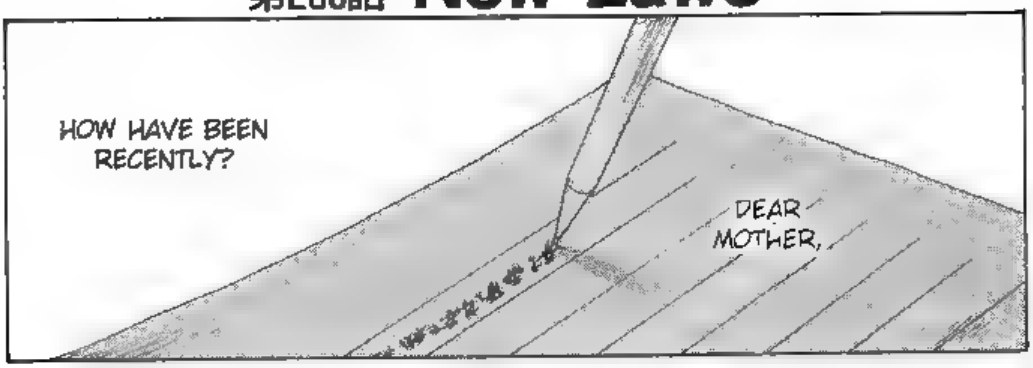
ANOTHER MEMBER OF ITOU'S GANG. THIS GUY IS INCREDIBLE FOR THE FACT THAT HE IS ONE OF THE RARE FEW WHO IS ABLE TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ITOU AND THE GORILLA. WITH HIS STOIC EXPRESSION, HE IS CONSIDERED ONE THOSE OF COOL GUYS. IT'S NOT DECIDED YET AS TO WHY HE'S PART OF ITOU'S GANG. THOUGH HE CAN DISTINGUISH ITOU, HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE PARTICULARLY CHUMMY WITH ITOU (LOL).

WELL, THAT'S HOW IT IS, I GUESS.

YOSHIE HOUSAKU

AMONG THE FEW YEAR ONE THAT'S PART OF ITOU'S GANG. SEEMS TO HAVE SOME KIND OF ANIMOSITY TOWARDS MATSUDA, HENCE DECIDED TO BE UNDER ITOU IN ORDER TO OPPOSE MATSUDA. EVEN THOUGH HE CAME FROM A DIFFERENT SCHOOL THAN ITOU, HE HAS LONG ADMIRED THE RENOWNED BADASS, CONSIDERING HIM TO BE THE MAKINGS OF A REAL MAN AND THUS AIMED TO BE PART OF ITOU'S ARMY. HOWEVER, HE CAN'T SEEM TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN ITOU AND A GORILLA.

第280話 New Laws



EVEN THOUGH I 'VE ADVANCED A GRADE, I'VE NEVER REALLY TRIED TO HONE MY OWN ABILITIES... SO NATURALLY, THERE AREN'T ANY DISTINCT CHANGES TO BE HAD.

WELL, DESPITE SAYING THAT I'VE BECOME A SECOND YEAR, NOTHING MAJOR HAS REALLY CHANGED.

FURTHERMORE, I'VE ENTIRELY FORGOTTEN ABOUT ONE THING.

THAT'S RIGHT, THE GOAL THAT I HAD SET WHEN I FIRST ENTERED THIS SCHOOL...

...AND TO REFORM THE DELINQUENTS HERE INTO MODEL CITIZENS.

TO CHANGE THE HIVE OF SCUM AND VILLAINY THAT IS THIS SCHOOL FOR THE BETTER

BUT AS TIME WENT BY, I FINALLY CAME TO UNDERSTAND THAT...

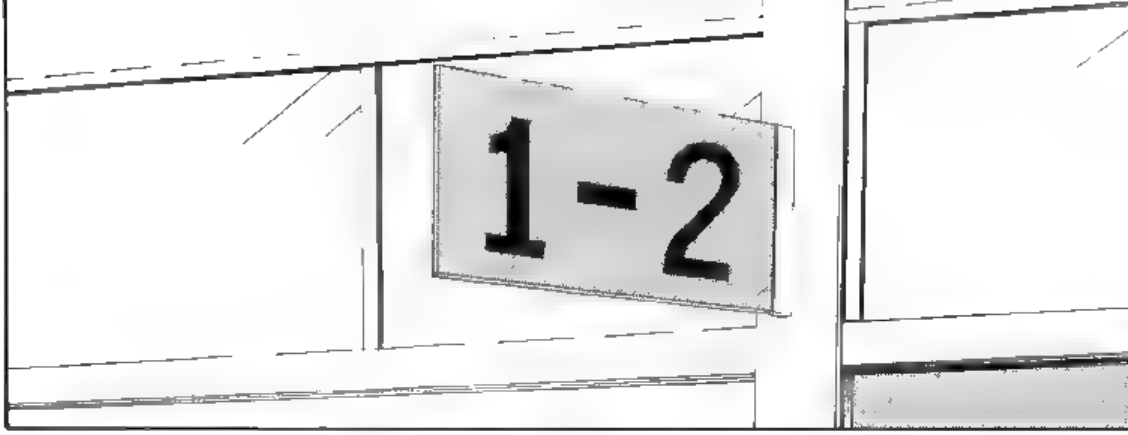
INITIALLY, I WAS PASSIONATE ABOUT THIS PLAN, GOING AT IT WITH FULL GUSTO.

Something like that is absolutely impossible.

Hey, Kamiyama! We've got some mochi here!
FRANKLY, IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER TO ME ANYMORE.
TRYING TO REFORM THESE GUYS WOULD BE A POINTLESS ACT AND SO I'VE DECIDED TO GIVE UP ON MY ATTEMPTS.

INDEED, IT'S CRUCIAL TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SLOWLY LEAD THE NEWCOMERS TO THE CORRECT PATH, THUS GRADUALLY TURN THINGS AROUND FOR THIS SCHOOL...
ABOVE ALL, IT'S THE YOUNGER ONES THAT CAN STILL BE RE-FORMED THAT MATTERS.

THAT MIGHT JUST BE MY ONE TRUE CALLING IN MY LIFE...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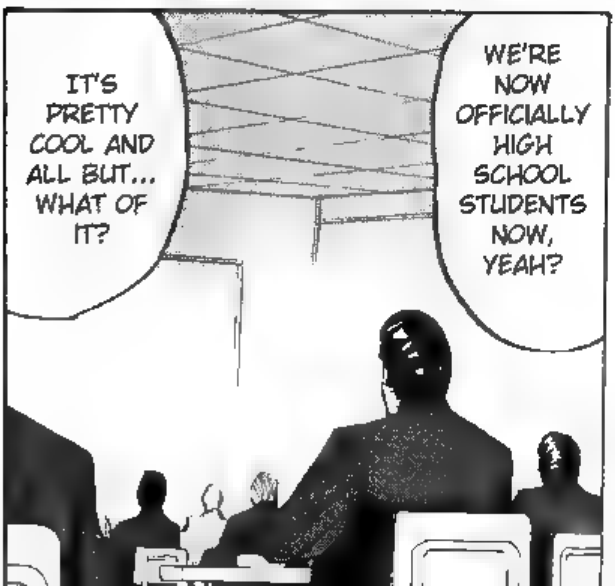
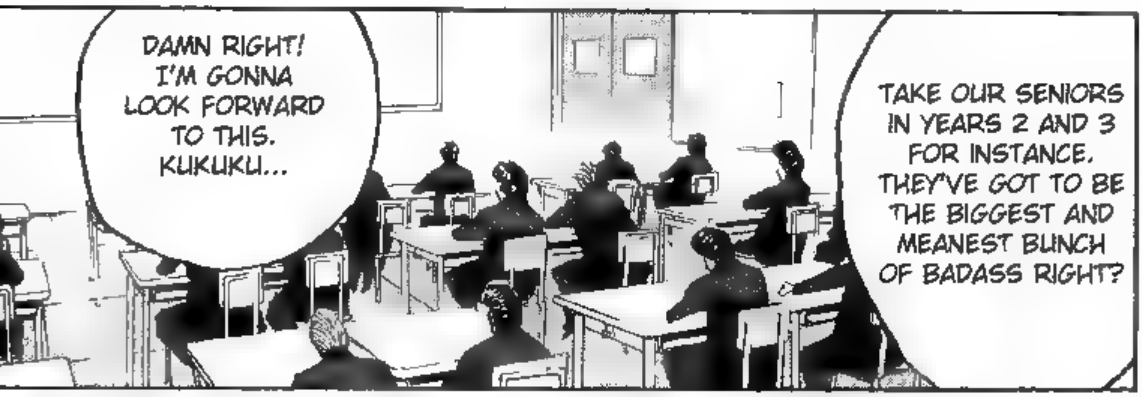
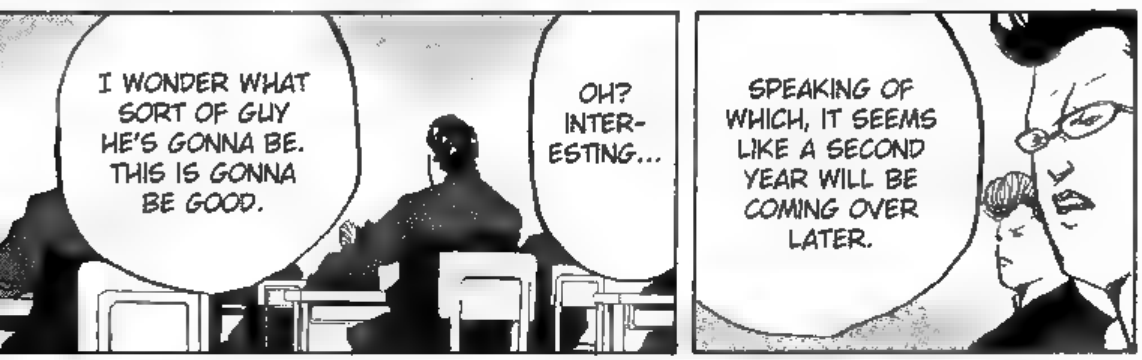
THE NEW FIRST YEARS OF CROMARTIE HIGH SCHOOL

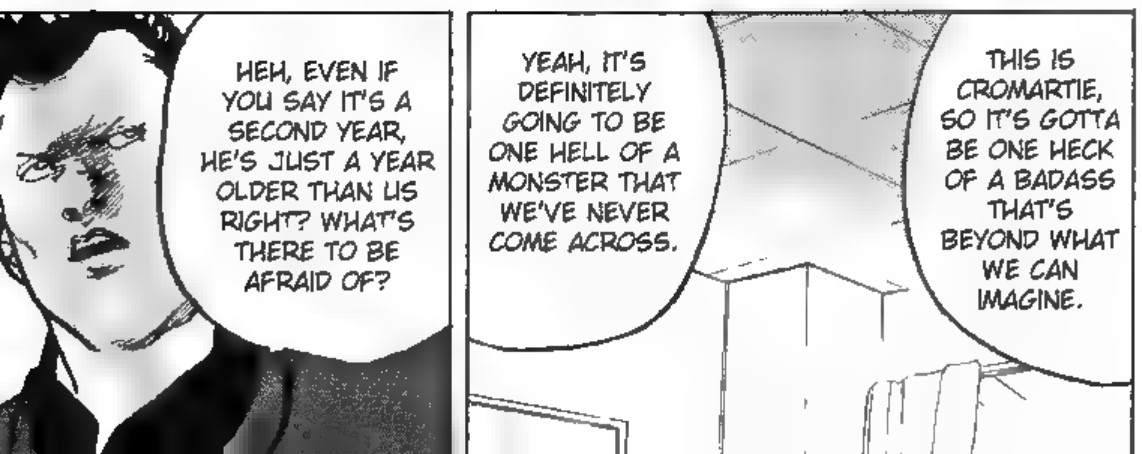

IT'S PRETTY COOL AND ALL BUT... WHAT OF IT?
WE'RE NOW OFFICIALLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NOW, YEAH?

SAY,

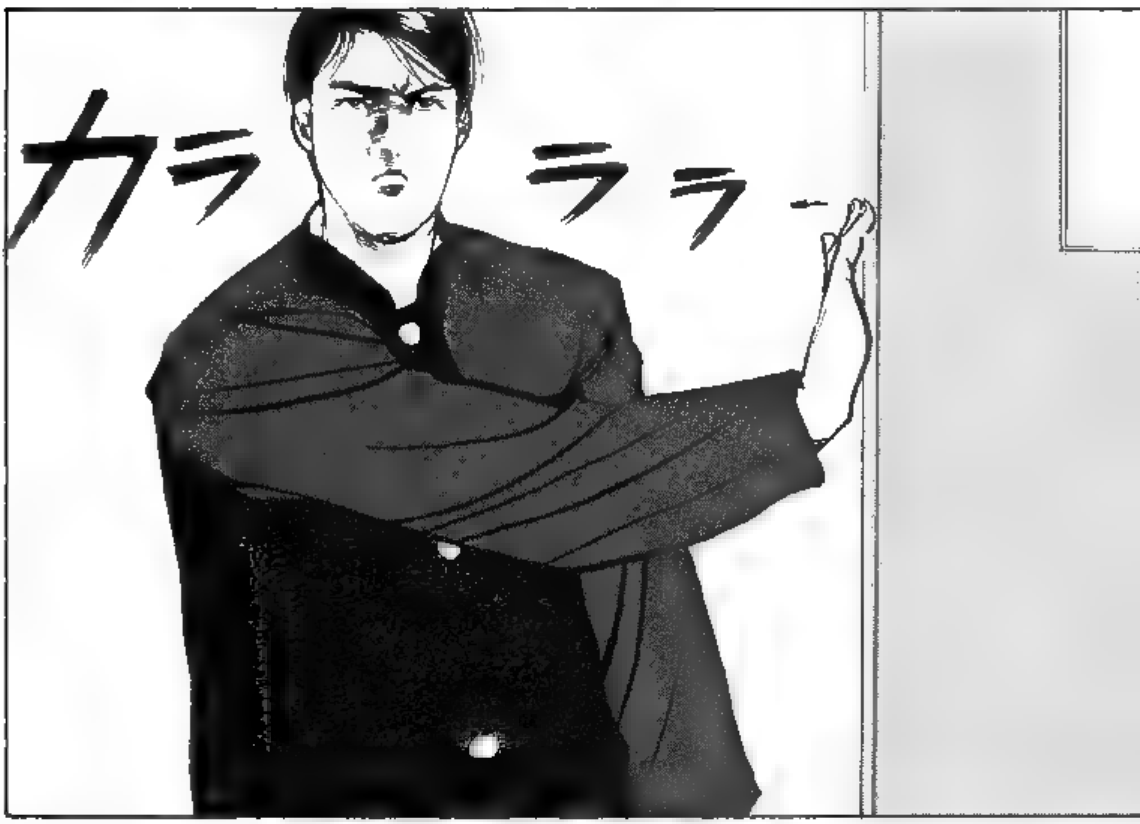
THIS SCHOOL IS SAID TO BE WHERE THE MISFITS AND FAILURES ARE CHUCKED TO, THE SCHOOL THAT IS SAID TO BE THE WORST OF THE WORSE RIGHT?
SO IN A WAY, DOESN'T IT MEAN THAT IT'S THE PERFECT GROUND FOR DELINQUENTS?


TAKE OUR SENIORS IN YEARS 2 AND 3 FOR INSTANCE. THEY'VE GOT TO BE THE BIGGEST AND MEANEST BUNCH OF BADASS RIGHT?
DAMN RIGHT! I'M GONNA LOOK FORWARD TO THIS. KUKUKU...


SPEAKING OF WHICH, IT SEEMS LIKE A SECOND YEAR WILL BE COMING OVER LATER.
OH? INTER-ESTING...
I WONDER WHAT SORT OF GUY HE'S GONNA BE. THIS IS GONNA BE GOOD.


THIS IS CROMARTIE, SO IT'S GOTTA BE ONE HECK OF A BADASS THAT'S BEYOND WHAT WE CAN IMAGINE.
YEAH, IT'S DEFINITELY GOING TO BE ONE HELL OF A MONSTER THAT WE'VE NEVER COME ACROSS.
HEH, EVEN IF YOU SAY IT'S A SECOND YEAR, HE'S JUST A YEAR OLDER THAN US RIGHT? WHAT'S THERE TO BE AFRAID OF?

FUCK-
ING
RIGHT
!!
FUCK THAT SHIT!
SO WHAT IF IT'S A
SENIOR COMING
OVER FOR A
GREETING!?
WE'RE FUCKING
DELINQUENTS
AFTER ALL!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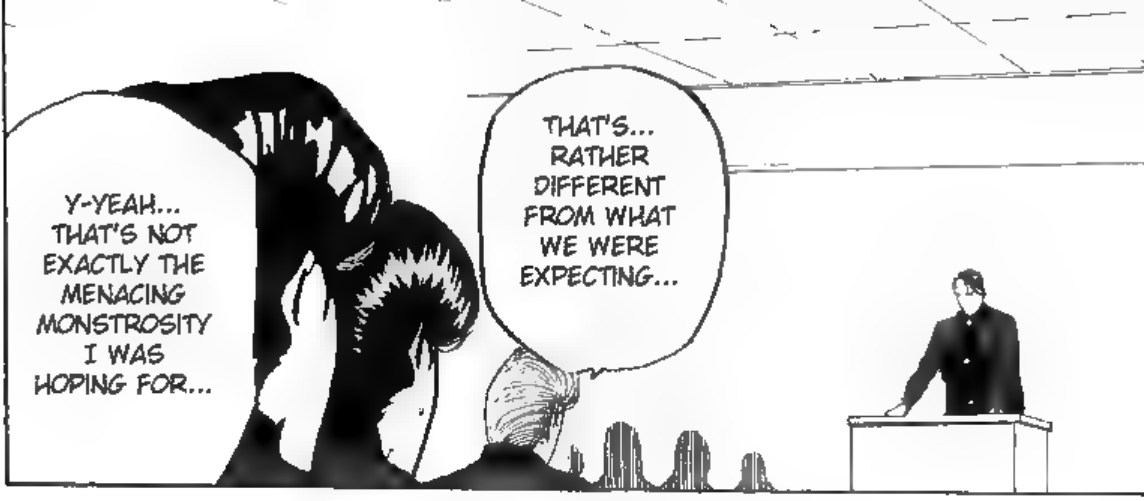
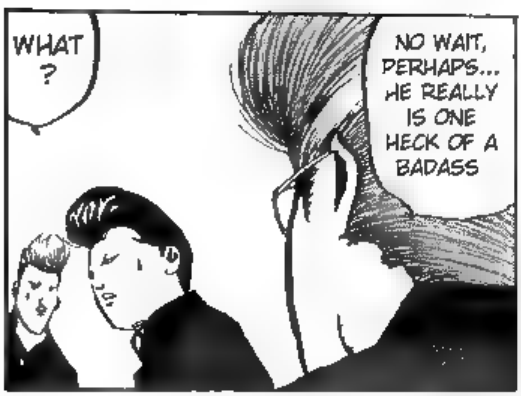
GOOD AFTER-NOON
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
YES?
UH, WAIT A MOMENT,
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET ALL OF YOU...
I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF THE SECOND YEARS.
I'M KAMIYAMA.
WHAT ...?
UH...


Y-YEAH... THAT'S NOT EXACTLY THE MENACING MONSTROSITY I WAS HOPING FOR...
THAT'S... RATHER DIFFERENT FROM WHAT WE WERE EXPECTING...


WHAT ?
NO WAIT, PERHAPS... HE REALLY IS ONE HECK OF A BADASS

FOR A SECOND YEAR TO BE SOMEONE LIKE HIM, IS THAT... FINE!?
BUT YOU KNOW, CROMARTIE IS SUP-POSED TO BE THE BADEST SCHOOL, ISN'T IT...?

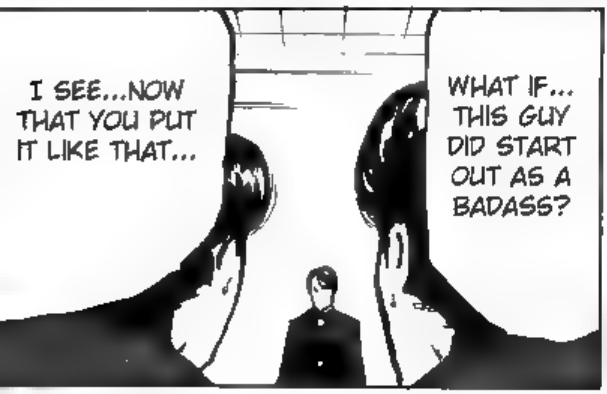
TRUE..
IT'S TO A POINT WHERE, FRANKLY, WE WOULDN'T EVEN BE SURPRISED IF SOME PUNK WHO LOOKS LIKE A GORILLA ACTUALLY TURNS UP HERE.

WHEN ONE SPEAKS OF CROMARTIE, IT'S SAID TO BE THE EPITOME OF A DELINQUENT SCHOOL IN THE METROPOLITIAN AREA...SO WE'VE ALL BEEN ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SOME REALLY MEAN BADASS...

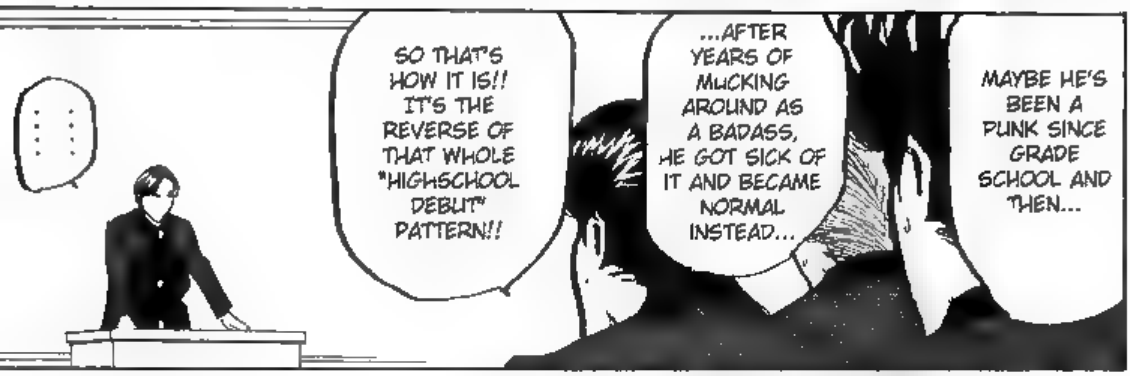
PERHAPS... THAT WAY IT CAN DELIVER A LARGER IMPACT...?

BUT NOW WE HAVE THIS GUY HERE INSTEAD...

WE'RE USED TO THE PORTRAYAL OF WHAT THE AVERAGE DELINQUENT IS LIKE, SO CONVERSELY, GUYS LIKE THAT WILL PRESENT A LARGER IMPACT...
I SEE... YOU'VE GOT A POINT.

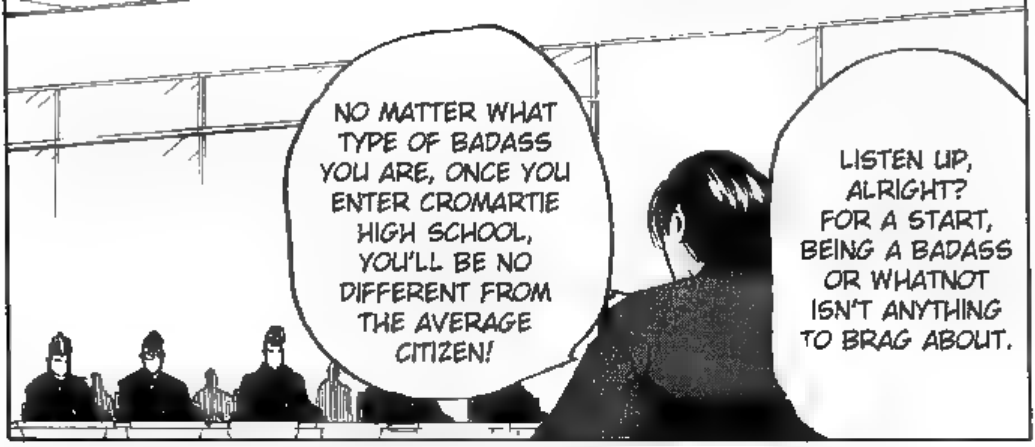

I SEE...NOW THAT YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT...
WHAT IF... THIS GUY DID START OUT AS A BADASS?

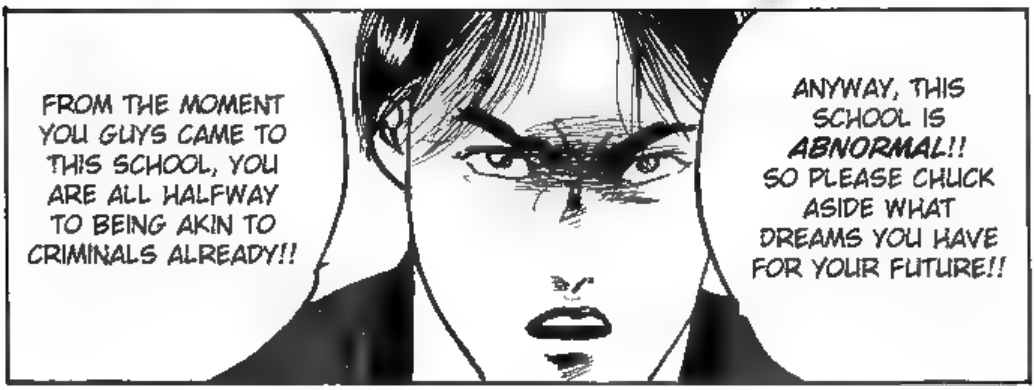
YEAH... NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, THERE'S NO WAY HE SHOULD BE HERE.
BUT YOU KNOW, WHY WOULD THAT GUY BE COMING TO THIS SCHOOL?


SO THAT'S HOW IT IS!! IT'S THE REVERSE OF THAT WHOLE "HIGHSCHOOL DEBUT" PATTERN!!
...AFTER YEARS OF MUCKING AROUND AS A BADASS, HE GOT SICK OF IT AND BECAME NORMAL INSTEAD...
MAYBE HE'S BEEN A PUNK SINCE GRADE SCHOOL AND THEN...

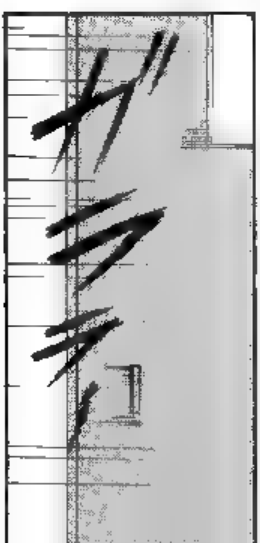
ALL OF YOU SEEM TO HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN.
I'M NOT A DELINQUENT AT ALL.

NO, NO, NO, PLEASE HOLD ON A MINUTE...
OH, I SEE.


NO MATTER WHAT TYPE OF BADASS YOU ARE, ONCE YOU ENTER CROMARTIE HIGH SCHOOL, YOU'LL BE NO DIFFERENT FROM THE AVERAGE CITIZEN!
LISTEN UP, ALRIGHT? FOR A START, BEING A BADASS OR WHATNOT ISN'T ANYTHING TO BRAG ABOUT.


FROM THE MOMENT YOU GUYS CAME TO THIS SCHOOL, YOU ARE ALL HALFWAY TO BEING AKIN TO CRIMINALS ALREADY!!
ANYWAY, THIS SCHOOL IS ABNORMAL!! SO PLEASE CHUCK ASIDE WHAT DREAMS YOU HAVE FOR YOUR FUTURE!!

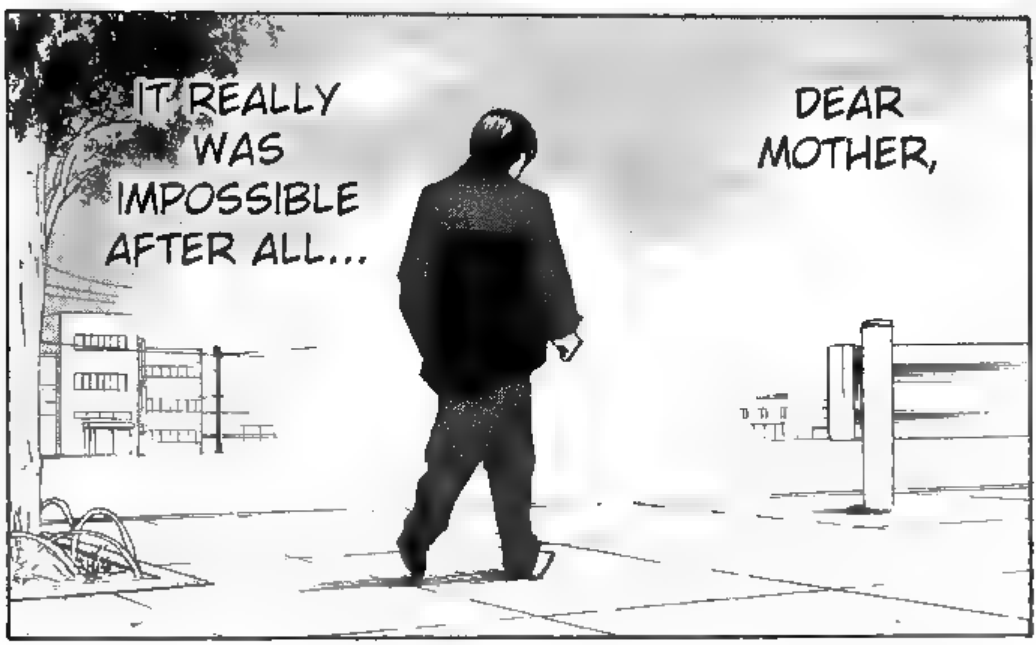
...WE'VE ONLY JUST ENTERED THIS SCHOOL AND WE'RE GIVEN THIS KIND OF SPEECH...
IF YOU AREN'T CAREFUL, YOU'RE GOING TO END UP AS A PIECE OF HUMAN TRASH!!



WH-WHAT THE!?
PLEASE COME IN!!

ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU JUST HOW ABNORMAL THIS SCHOOL IS.

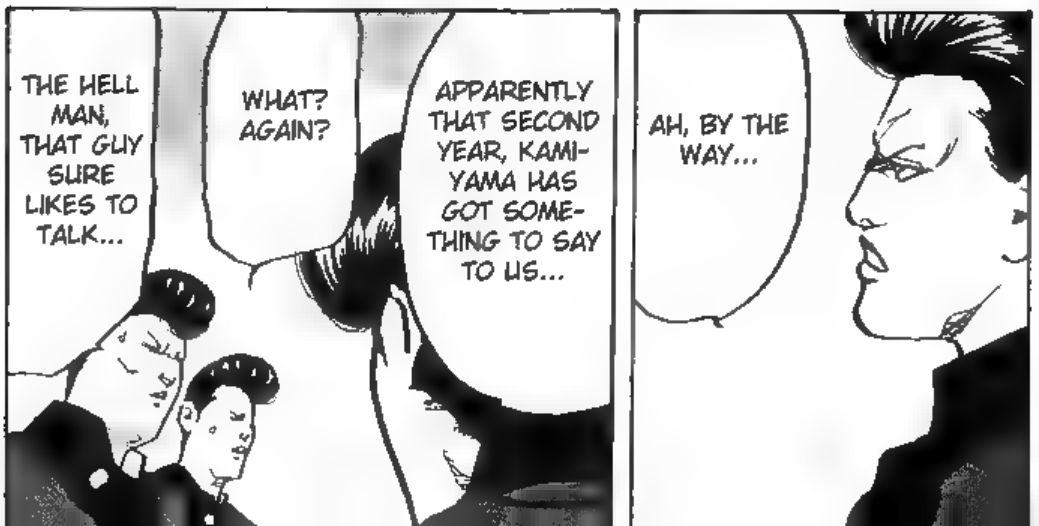
There's... there's no doubt about it... this guy is fucking badass!!
What middle school is this guy from!?
PLEASE SHARE WITH US YOUR HEROIC FEATS!!
You fool!! Don't speak with him in such an overly friendly manner !!
NO, THAT'S ...

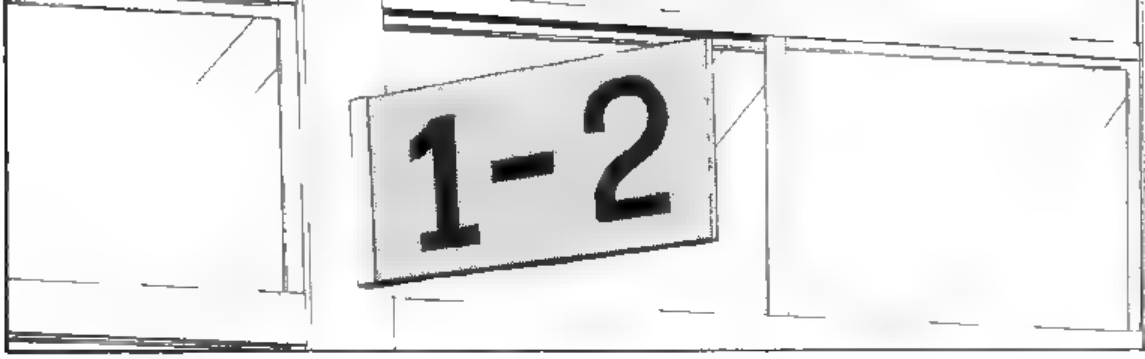


WHAT AN ADORABLE BUNCH OF FRESHMEN.

MORNING!!
SUP, GUYS!!

YEAH!! GOTTO PUT ON SOME GUTS INTO SCHOOL!!
WE'RE NOW THE FIRST YEARS OF CROMARTIE HIGH SCHOOL!!
第281話 Brilliant Mistake


THE HELL MAN, THAT GUY SURE LIKES TO TALK...
WHAT? AGAIN?
APPARENTLY THAT SECOND YEAR, KAMI-YAMA HAS GOT SOME-THING TO SAY TO US...
AH, BY THE WAY...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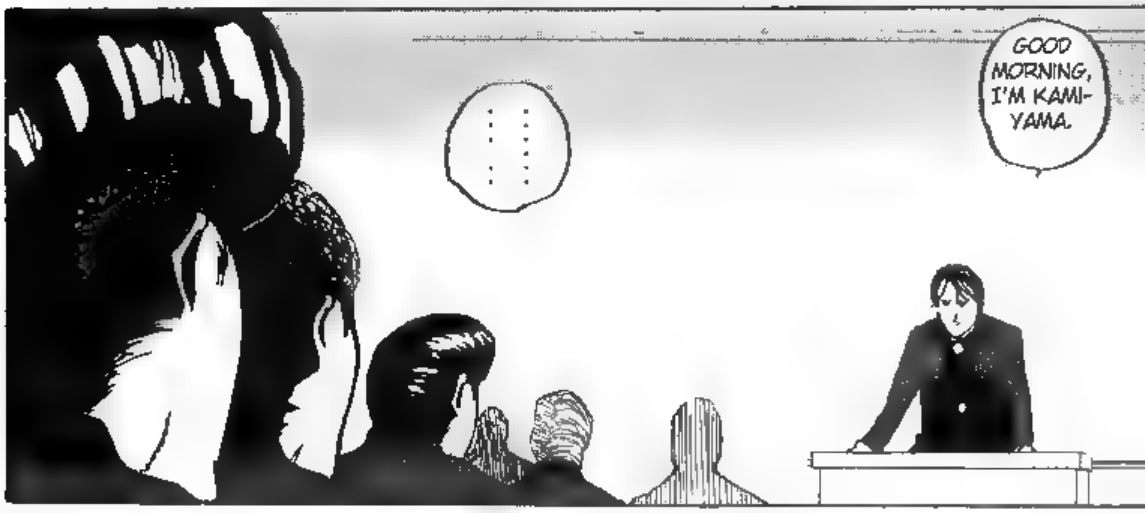
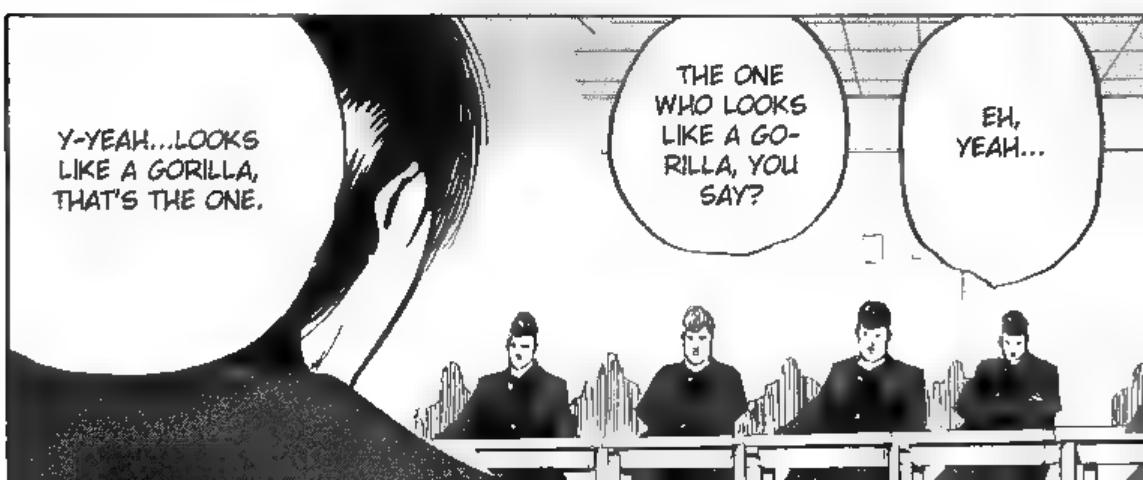
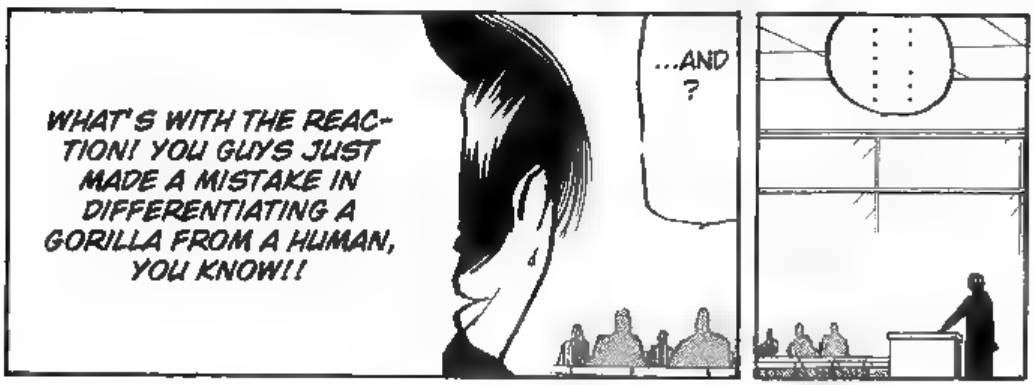

GOOD MORNING, I'M KAMI-YAMA.
. . . . . .

YOU KNOW, THE ONE WHO...LOOKED LIKE A GORILLA...
UH... DO YOU STILL REMEMBER FROM A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO WHERE YOU GUYS WERE INTRODUCED TO A CERTAIN SECOND YEAR?

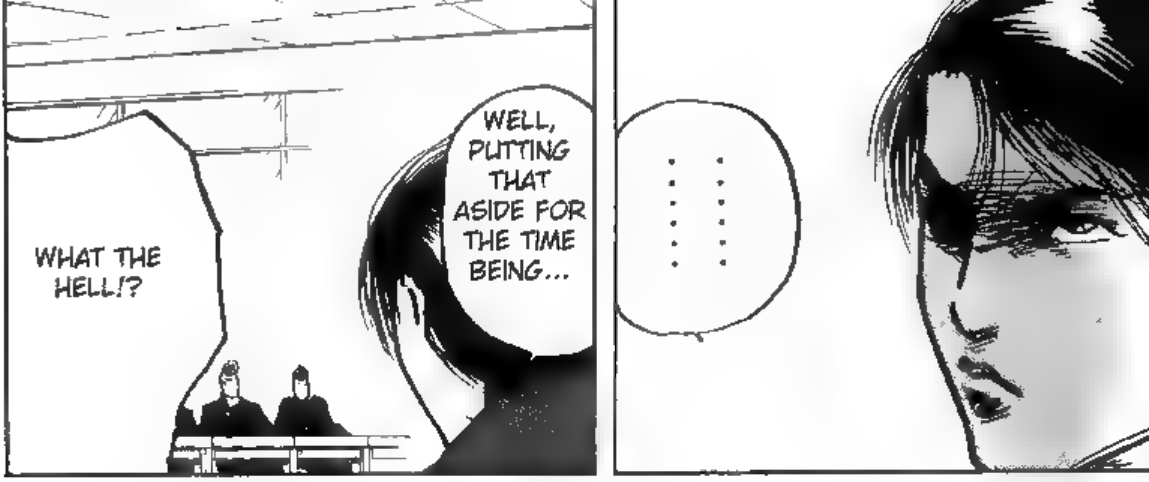

Y-YEAH...LOOKS LIKE A GORILLA, THAT'S THE ONE.
THE ONE WHO LOOKS LIKE A GO-RILLA, YOU SAY?
EH, YEAH...

BUT THE TRUTH IS, THAT ISN'T "SOMEONE WHO LOOKS LIKE A GORILLA"
... RATHER, THAT "IS A GORILLA"!


...AND ?
WHAT'S WITH THE REACTION! YOU GUYS JUST MADE A MISTAKE IN DIFFERENTIATING A GORILLA FROM A HUMAN, YOU KNOW!!

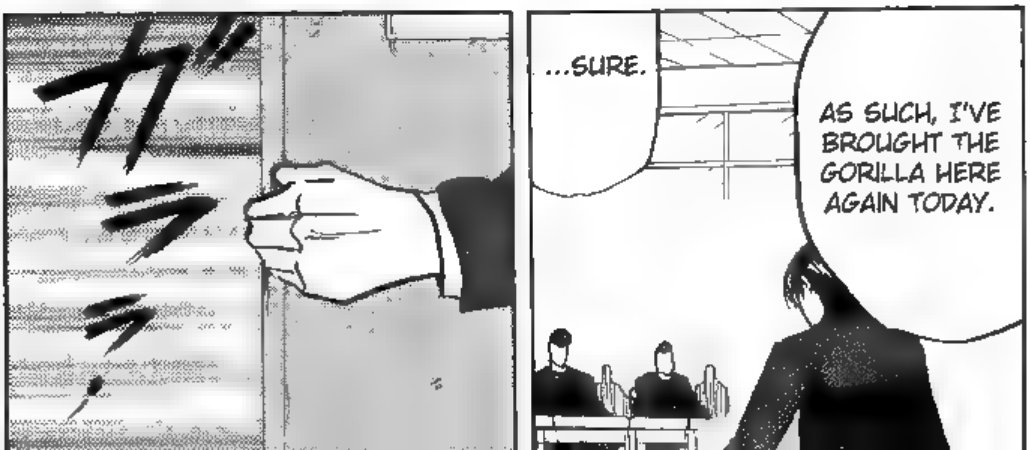
YOU GOT IT? PLEASE THINK ABOUT IT RATIONALLY! GENERAL KNOWLEDGE OF HOW SOCIETY WORKS SHOULD DICTATE THAT A GORILLA WOULDN'T BE INTERACTING WITH HUMANS!
HOW CAN IT NOT MATTER! THIS IS SOMETHING THAT HAS TO BE MADE CLEAR!
EH, DOESN'T REALLY MATTER DOES IT.
THAT'S FINE ISN'T IT.

UM...THOUGH WE DON'T REALLY HAVE MUCH OF A SOCIETAL KNOWLEDGE, WOULDN'T IT BE EVEN WEIRDER FOR THERE TO BE A GORILLA IN THE SCHOOL...?
WAIT, HOLD ON A SEC...
YOU GUYS LACK GENERAL AWARENESS OF HOW SOCIETY WORKS!


WELL, PUTTING THAT ASIDE FOR THE TIME BEING...
WHAT THE HELL!?
. . . . . .

...ANYWAY! I CAN'T HAVE YOU GUYS BE DRAGGED ALONG BY THE PACE OF THIS SCHOOL!!
I INITIALLY THOUGHT THAT THIS GUY'S A STRAIGHT-LACE. DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THAT'S THE CASE
...THAT GUY'S JUST SHOVING ASIDE ALL THE DIFFICULT ISSUES...

THEREFORE, AT THE VERY LEAST, I HOPE THAT YOU GUYS CAN DISTINGUISH A GORILLA FROM A HUMAN!
BECAUSE BY THEN, IT WOULD BE TOO LATE TO SAVE YOU!!


カ"ラ ラ ラ
...SURE.
AS SUCH, I'VE BROUGHT THE GORILLA HERE AGAIN TODAY.

OBSERVE CAREFULLY AND YOU'LL SEE
OK,
.....
.....

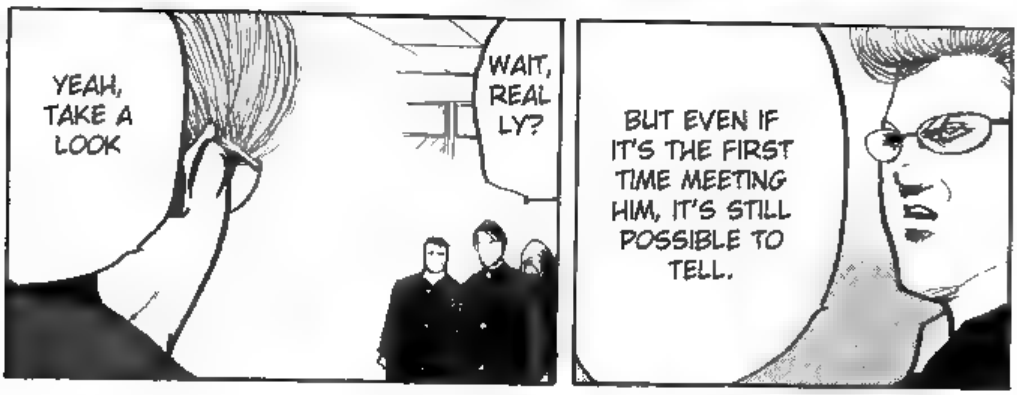
WHAT !?
THAT THIS IS A GORILLA NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT RIGHT?

THAT'S NOT A GORILLA, THAT'S OUR CLASSMATE...
WHAT ?

...UH, KAMIYAMA...

HELL'S BELLS, YOU CAN SPEAK! SO YOU ARE A HUMAN...!?
UH...I'M ITOU, A FIRST YEAR...

IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT FOR THOSE WHO HAVE JUST MET THE FIRST TIME THOUGH...
WE'VE KINDA GROWN USED TO IT...
STILL, HOW DID YOU GUYS MANAGE TO TELL?
WAIT, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "CAN SPEAK" ...


YEAH, TAKE A LOOK
WAIT, REAL LY?
BUT EVEN IF IT'S THE FIRST TIME MEETING HIM, IT'S STILL POSSIBLE TO TELL.

AND THIS ONE WITHOUT THE SCHOOL UNIFORM IS THE GORILLA.
THIS WITH THE SCHOOL UNIFORM IS OUR CLASSMATE, ITOU.

DON'T FUCKING USE THAT KIND OF METHOD !!
I SEE... THAT SURE IS A CON- VENIENT METHOD.

I HAVE A VERY BAD FEELING ABOUT WHAT IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE IN THE FUTURE...
...OH GOOD GRIEF,
HUH?
HEY!
HOW ON EARTH DID I GET MISTAKEN AS A GORILLA THE MOMENT I JUST ENTERED THIS SCHOOL...
AH ...!
He spoke ...!?
DID YOU PERHAPS MISTAKE ME FOR SOMEONE ELSE?
UHM...
WHAT A COINCIDENCE, WHAT'S UP?
WHAT...IS GOING ON HERE?
SORRY, I GOT THE WRONG PERSON...

THAT GORILLA ...!?
DON'T TELL ME...
HE THOUGHT THAT I WAS...

YEAH, I GOT TO HAVE MORE FAITH IN MYSELF!!
I'M A HUMAN NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK!
NO, NO, NO! NO WAY THAT'S POSSIBLE!

N-NOT AGAIN ..?
HEY, MAN!

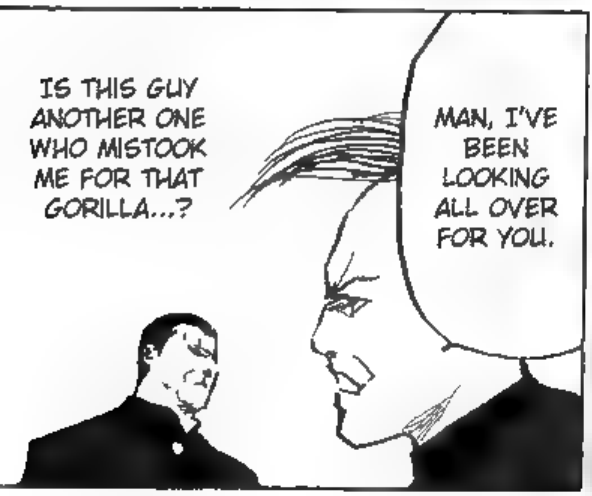
THERE'S NO WAY SOMETHING AS STUPID AS THIS IS EVEN POSSIBLE
FIRST AND FOREMOST, IT WOULDN'T BE A MATTER OF MISTAKING A HUMAN FOR A GORILLA BUT THE GORILLA BEING MISTAKEN AS SOMEONE

HUH?
OH YEAH, I GOT SOMETHING FOR YOU.

. . . . . .
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?

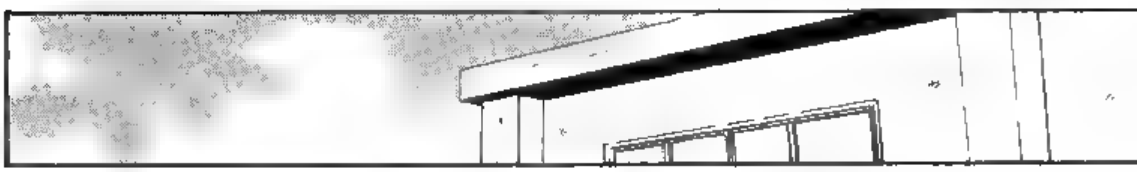
HERE,
YOUR FAVOURITE.
WHAT !?
He spoke...!?
I DON'T REALLY LIKE SWEET THINGS...
NO, UH...
HOLD ON, LET ME PEEL IT FOR YOU.
IT'S TRUE...! THEY REALLY DID TAKE ME AS THAT GORILLA!
SORRY... I GOT THE WRONG PERSON...

I'VE FUCKING HAD IT WITH BEING MISTAKEN AS A GORILLA!!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH WITH THIS SHIT!!


IS THIS GUY ANOTHER ONE WHO MISTOOK ME FOR THAT GORILLA...?
MAN, I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU.

ANOTHER ONE!
OH, HEY!

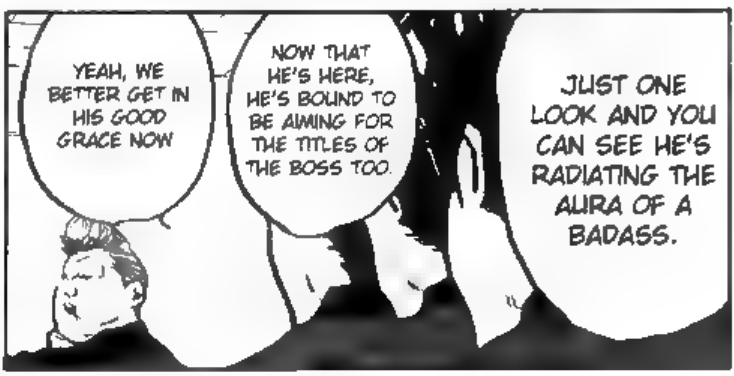
HURRY UP WITH WHATEVER CRAP YOU HAVE TO SAY!
BLOODY HELL, I DON'T CARE ANYMORE!
WHAT IS IT GONNA BE ABOUT THIS TIME? BANANAS? THE ZOO?



TECHNICALLY, THAT'S YOUR SENIOR, YEAH?

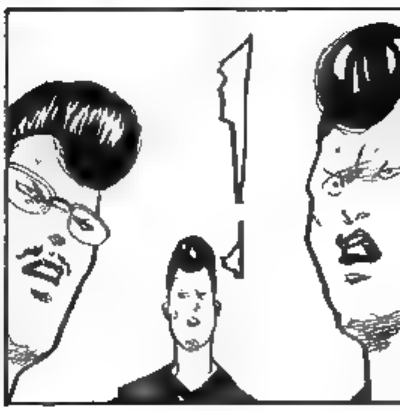
第282話 In Your Eyes

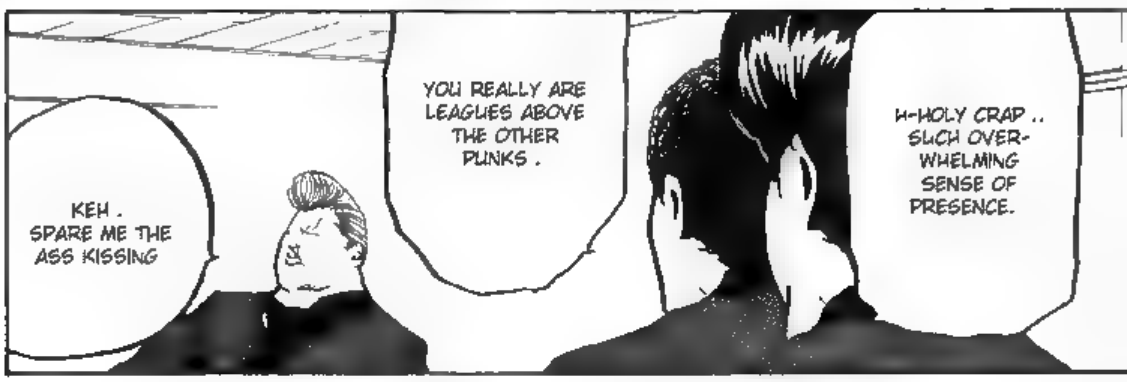
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIS LARGE BODY SIZE COUPLED BY HIS ABNORMAL PHYSICAL STRENGTH HAS EARNED HIM THE FEARSOME NAME OF "THE HUMANOID MOUNTAIN". NEEDLESS TO SAY, HE IS ALSO AMONG ONE OF THE STRONGEST STUDENTS AMONG THE NEW FIRST YEARS.
FIRST YEAR, MATSUMOTO SHYUSAKU (15)


YEAH, WE BETTER GET IN HIS GOOD GRACE NOW
NOW THAT HE'S HERE, HE'S BOUND TO BE AIMING FOR THE TITLES OF THE BOSS TOO.
JUST ONE LOOK AND YOU CAN SEE HE'S RADIATING THE AURA OF A BADASS.

GUARRGH !!!

DON'T YOU FUCKING GET CHUMMY WITH ME AS YOU PLEASE.
WATCH YOUR ATTITUDE PUNK,

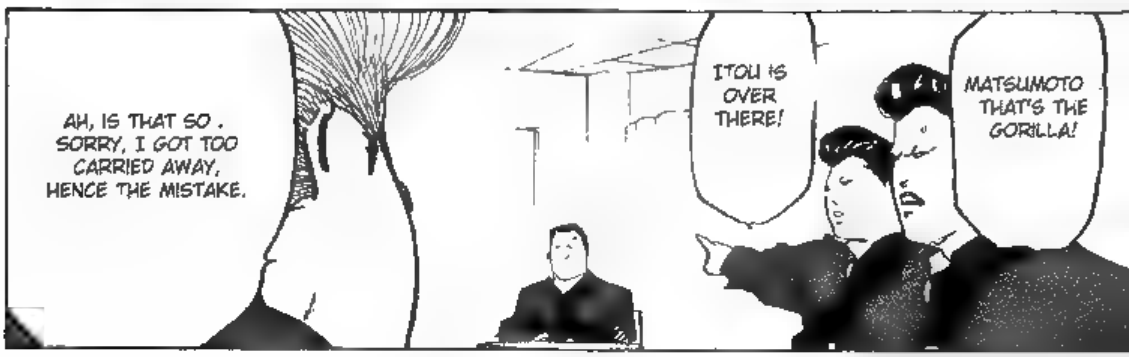



KEH . SPARE ME THE ASS KISSING
YOU REALLY ARE LEAGUES ABOVE THE OTHER PUNKS .
H-HOLY CRAP .. SUCH OVER-WHELMING SENSE OF PRESENCE.

HEH, I WISH. AS IF IT'S THAT EASY THIS IS THE GODDAMN CROMARTIE AFTER ALL.
MAYBE EVEN THE SECOND YEARS LOOKED DIFFERENTLY UPON YOU TOO !
W-WE REALLY MEAN IT! I DOUBT THERE'S ANY FIRST YEARS WHO DARES TO DEFY YOU....!

THAT'S RIGHT. FOR EXAMPLE, THAT BASTARD, ITOU
WHAT!? SOMEONE LIKE THAT EXISTS!?
EVEN AMONG FIRST YEARS, THERE'S A DISSENT OR TWO THAT I'M HAVING TROUBLE DEALING WITH.
BUT COMPARED TO YOU, I DON'T THINK HE'S MUCH OF A THREAT
WELL HE IS PRETTY WELL KNOWN
OK? JUST FROM HIS GAZE AND I CAN TELL THAT GUY'S NOT ONE TO BE MESSED WITH.
LET ME TELL YA.. I'VE SEEN MY FAIR SHARE OF BADASS MUTHERFUCKERS, SO I CAN TELL WITH A GLANCE.
LOOK CAREFULLY AND YOU CAN SEE THAT!
YOU GUYS ARE MERE GREEN-HORNS..
IS IS THAT REALLY SO...?

YOU GOT THE WRONG GUY !!
THOSE ARE THE EYES OF A REAL BADASS!
. . .


AH, IS THAT SO . SORRY, I GOT TOO CARRIED AWAY, HENCE THE MISTAKE.
ITOU IS OVER THERE!
MATSUMOTO THAT'S THE GORILLA!

AFTER ALL, THIS GUY ACTUALLY MANAGED TO CAUSE MATSUMOTO TO LOSE HIS COOL.

HAH?
WELL, I GUESS ITOU IS INDEED THE REAL DEAL.

WHAT THE ...!?
うッ

IT WASN'T THAT I WAS AFRAID!! SO DON'T GO SPOUTING THAT KIND OF NONSENSE!!
THE FUCK DO YOU MEAN I LOST MY COOL! I JUST GOT A LITTLE TOO CAUGHT UP WITH THE MOOD AND MADE A MISTAKE!!

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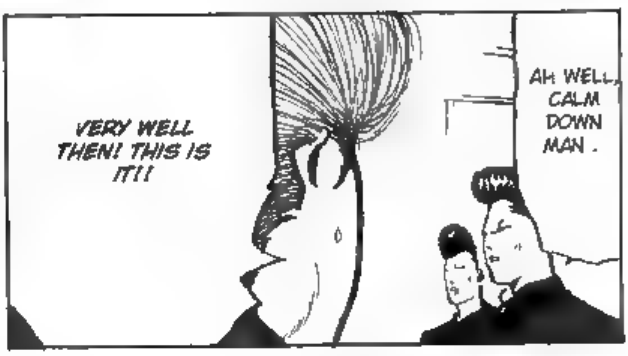
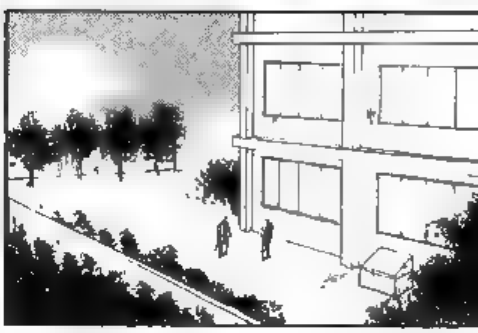

VERY WELL THEN! THIS IS IT!!
AH WELL, CALM DOWN MAN.

.....

HEY, ITOU

LIKE WE SAID, THAT'S THE GORILLA THERE, DAMN IT!!
LET'S SETTLE IT RIGHT THEN AND NOW!!
.....
.....

I SEE...



YEAH... IT'S KILLING ME, I TELL YOU...
PEOPLE ARE STILL MISTAKING THAT GORILLA AS YOU...

AH! THAT'S TRUE!
THAT'S BECAUSE THE SCHOOL YOU PREVIOUSLY WENT TO HAD NO GORILLA.
I MEAN... SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAS NEVER HAPPENED TO ME BEFORE SO HOW DID IT JUST SUDDENLY...
OH RIGHT, MY BAD...
SO I SHUDDER THINK IT'S WISE TO SAY "IF ONLY YOU WEREN'T HERE".
I SHOULD SAY THIS IN ADVANCE, EVEN IF HE'S A GORILLA, HE'S THE ONE WHO WAS HERE FIRST...
SO...DOES IT MEAN THAT IF THAT GORILLA ISN'T HERE, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN?
GETTING ROLLED INTO THIS KIND OF THING WHEN I'VE ONLY JUST ENROLLED INTO THIS SCHOOL... WHAT A PAIN...
ANYWAY, CAN YOU HELP ME DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS, KAMIYAMA?
DIDN'T I ALREADY SAY THIS AT THAT TIME?
HUH?
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU DIDN'T TAKE MY WARNING TO HEART.

HEY! THAT IS THE GORILLA OVER THERE DAMMIT !!
IF YOU DON'T WEAR YOUR UNIFORM, YOU'RE GOING TO GET MISTAKEN AS THE GORILLA...

YOU'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOMETHING. THIS REALLY WON'T DO!
IF THAT'S THE CASE, EVEN THE UNIFORM ISN'T GOING TO HELP...

WELL, HE'S GOT PLENTY OF TIME ON HIS HANDS AFTER ALL.
SPEAKING OF WHICH... WHAT'S WITH THAT GORILLA AND HIS SENSE OF TIMING?

WHAT!? NO WAY!
...I'M AFRAID IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE.

SORRY, BUT

NO, I MEANT I'LL DO ANY-THING TO NOT BE MISTAKEN!!
IF YOU REALLY WILL DO ANY-THING, THEN WHY NOT JUST ENDURE WITH BEING MISTAK-EN?
COME ON, THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME-THING ELSE! PLEASE PONDER ON IT FURTHER! I'LL DO ANYTHING!
IF EVEN THE UNIFORM ISN'T HELPING THEN THERE'S REALLY NOTHING LEFT TO BE DONE...
WHOA! REALLY?
OK, I THINK I'VE GOT IT.
.....
UH...
.....
ON THE SHIRT: I'M HUMAN
WHAT ?
UH... IS THIS REALLY NO OTHER WAY?
YEAH. THAT SHOULD SETTLE THE ISSUE.
人間です
YOU WANT ME TO WEAR... THIS?

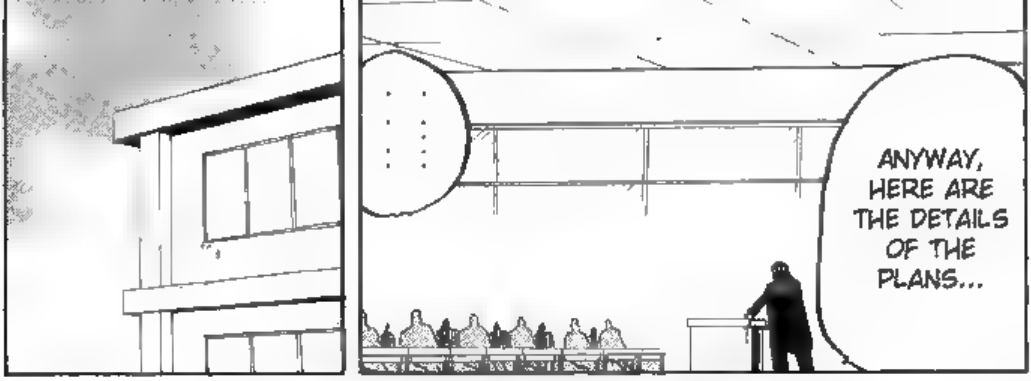
AH!
I MEAN, HOW DO I PUT IT, ISN'T THIS JUST A LITTLE TOO MUCH...
S-SORRY, I JUST DIDN'T EXPECT THAT IT'LL GO TO THIS EXTEND...
ARE YOU GOING BACK ON YOUR WORDS!?
DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT YOU'LL DO ANYTHING!?
I CAME UP WITH THIS SOLUTION FOR YOUR SAKE. IF YOU DON'T WANT TO WEAR IT THEN SO BE IT!
Spare me the complains!
MY SAKE!?
JUST TO BE CLEAR, THIS IS DONE FOR YOUR SAKE, YOU KNOW?
IS FOR MY OWN SAKE...
...WEARING THIS...

OH! YOU'VE MADE UP YOUR MIND!?
ALRIGHT, I GET IT! I'LL WEAR IT!!
. . . . . .
JUST TO MAKE SURE....
HMM?
BUT WAIT...
I-IT'LL BE FINE!! EVEN I AM NOT THAT MUCH OF A FOOL TO BE MAKING THE SAME MISTAKES TWICE!!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MESS UP BY LETTING THE GORILLA WEAR ONE TOO, ARE YOU?
AND WE'RE DONE!!
HERE YOU GO!
OK!! PASS ME THE SHIRT AND I'LL WEAR IT!!

EH, WHATEVER WORKS.

第283話 Good Enough

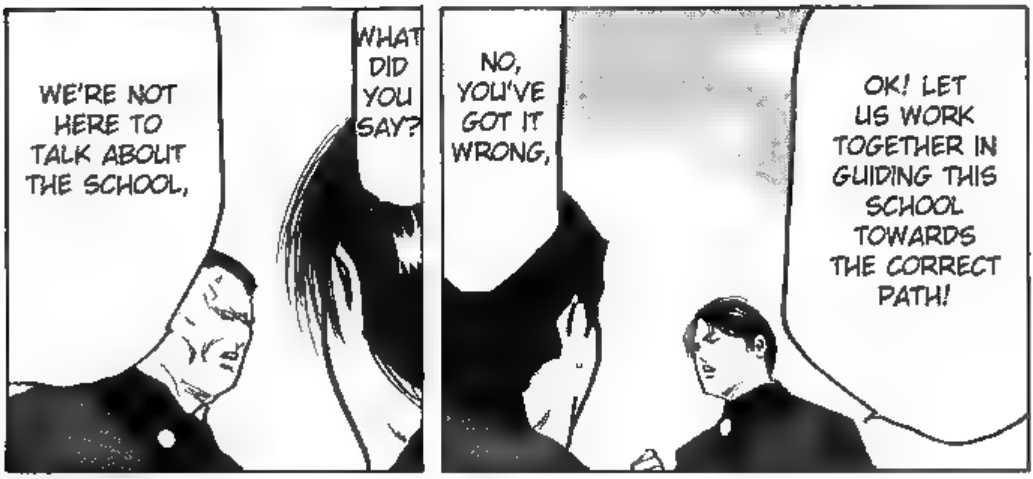
I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE CROMARTIE FROM A HOPELESS DUMP OF A DELINQUENT SCHOOL INTO AN ACADEMY WITH A CONDUCIVE STUDYING ENVIRONMENT!
... ...AS SUCH,


ANYWAY, HERE ARE THE DETAILS OF THE PLANS...

LET'S SEE HOW MANY TURNED UP...
WELL THEN,

WAIT, NO! THAT'S NOT EVEN A "PERSON"!
....JUST ONE PERSON HUH...
...IT MADE IT SEEMS LIKE I AM LACKING IN INTERPERSONAL SKILLS...
UGH... I KNEW THAT THERE WOULDN'T BE MUCH PARTICIPATION BUT... I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO BE NONE AT ALL...
HMM ?
UHM, KAMI-YAMA...
THIS SETBACK HAS LEFT ME IN DESPAIR...
I DON'T THINK I CAN RECOVER FROM THIS...
AH! YOU GUYS ARE HERE!
THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU...

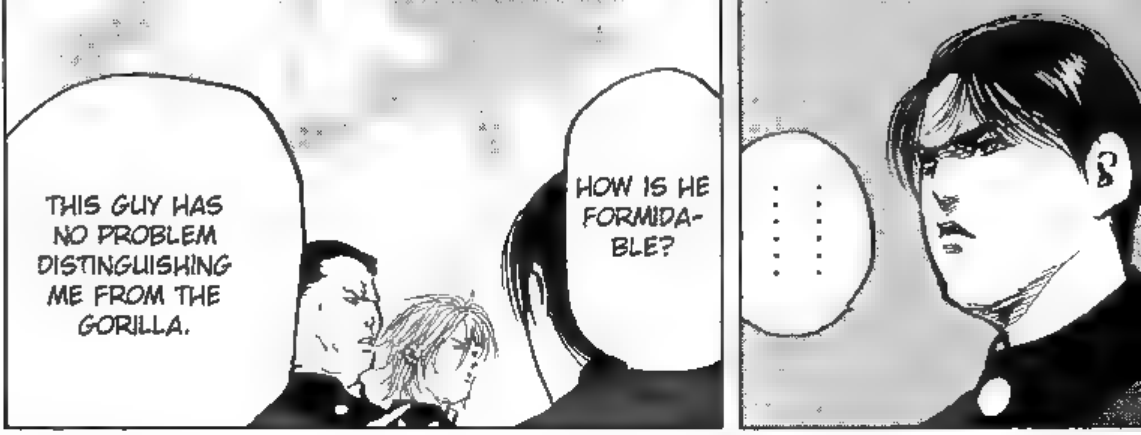
UH...
I KNEW YOU GUYS WILL GET ME!

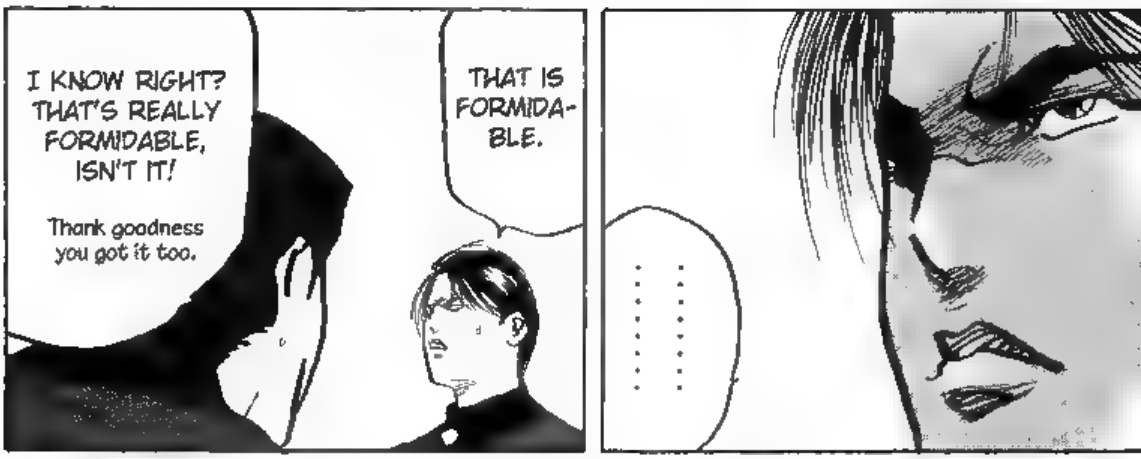

WE'RE NOT HERE TO TALK ABOUT THE SCHOOL,
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
NO, YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG,
OK! LET US WORK TOGETHER IN GUIDING THIS SCHOOL TOWARDS THE CORRECT PATH!

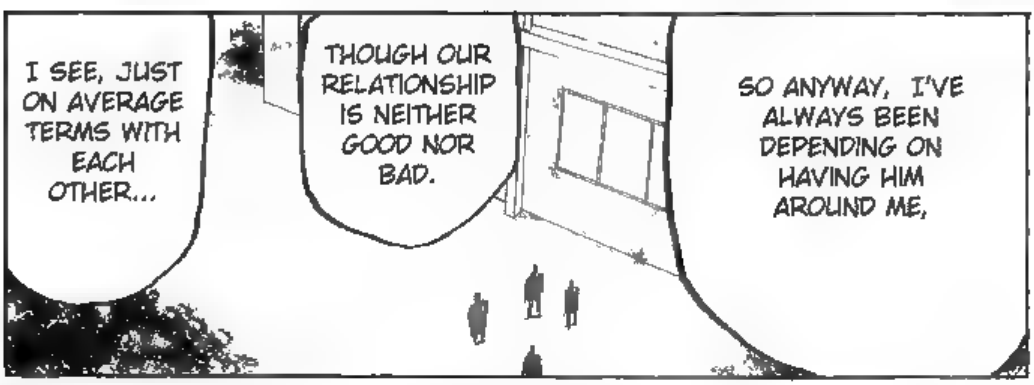
.....
IT'S ACTUALLY ISSUES ABOUT THAT GORILLA... I'M HOPING THAT YOU COULD ADVICE ME ON SOMETHING...

AH! WAIT, NO THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M IMPLYING...!
SO I GUESS MY DEEDS REALLY ARE IRRELEVANT AFTER ALL...
ABOUT THE GORILLA...

HEY, SEE HERE! OF COURSE I AM! I'M GIVING MY BEST TO DISCUSS ON HOW TO IMPROVE THE SCHOOL HERE YOU KNOW!?
AND YET HERE YOU ARE
DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO BE SO PERTURBED BY WHAT OTHERS SAY...
SO UH, THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO DEPRESSED.
NO... IT'S NOT ABOUT FUN OR NOT...
OK, I GET IT ALREADY... YOU THINK TALKING ABOUT GORILLAS ARE MORE FUN RIGHT.
BUT TO ME THIS IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT!
JUST WANTING TO TALK ABOUT A GORILLA...
AH, LET ME EXPLAIN.
THEN WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?
WE.... I DON'T HAVE ANY PARTICULAR INTEREST IN GORILLAS.
THEN DO YOU GUYS WANT TO TALK ABOUT GORILLAS TOO?
...
...HE'S REALLY FORMIDABLE.
THIS IS ANDOU. HE'S A FIRST YEAR JUST LIKE ME AND


THIS GUY HAS NO PROBLEM DISTINGUISHING ME FROM THE GORILLA.
HOW IS HE FORMIDA-BLE?
.....

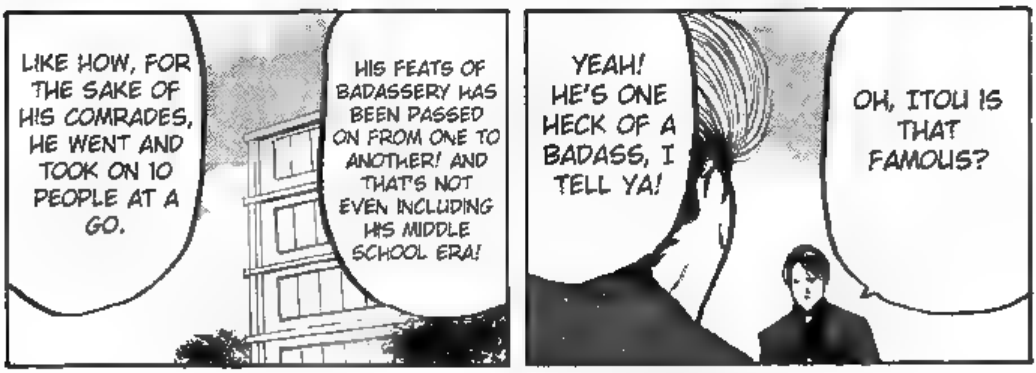

I KNOW RIGHT? THAT'S REALLY FORMIDABLE, ISN'T IT!
Thank goodness you got it too.
THAT IS FORMIDA-BLE.
.....


I SEE, JUST ON AVERAGE TERMS WITH EACH OTHER...
THOUGH OUR RELATIONSHIP IS NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD.
SO ANYWAY, I'VE ALWAYS BEEN DEPENDING ON HAVING HIM AROUND ME,

AFTER ALL, IT'S BETWEEN A HUMAN AND A GORILLA RIGHT? THERE'S NO WAY I CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE. RATHER, ONE LOOK AND YOU CAN TELL...
ISN'T THAT NORMAL ? TO BE ABLE TO DO THAT ?
BUT CAN YOU REALLY TELL?

. . . . . .
WELL, SEEMS LIKE IT'S STILL NOT PERFECT.
DUDE, YOU'RE THE ONLY GUY I CAN COUNT ON NOW!! I'M DEPENDING ON YOU!!
Y-YOU HESITATED FOR A MOMENT JUST NOW, DIDN'T YOU!?
...THE GORILLA'S THIS ONE OVER HERE.
AH... I'M YOSHIE.
WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
SO,
ACTUALLY, RIGHT NOW AMONG THE FIRST YEARS, IT'S MAINLY DIVIDED INTO ITOU'S GANG AND MATSUMOTO'S GANG.
I SEE.
I'M HOW DO I PUT IT, A BIG FAN OF ITOU. I'M BASICALLY HIS UNDERLING.

AND HE'S BEEN KNOWN AS A PRETTY DAMN GOOD FIGHTER FOR A LONG TIME.
ON THE OTHER HAND, ITOU'S A TOTAL BRO.
MAN, THAT GUY'S DE-TESTABLE...
I HAD SOME RUN IN WITH MATSUMOTO IN THE PAST SO I DON'T GET ALONG WITH HIM.


LIKE HOW, FOR THE SAKE OF HIS COMRADES, HE WENT AND TOOK ON 10 PEOPLE AT A GO.
HIS FEATS OF BADASSERY HAS BEEN PASSED ON FROM ONE TO ANOTHER! AND THAT'S NOT EVEN INCLUDING HIS MIDDLE SCHOOL ERA!
YEAH! HE'S ONE HECK OF A BADASS, I TELL YA!
OH, ITOU IS THAT FAMOUS?

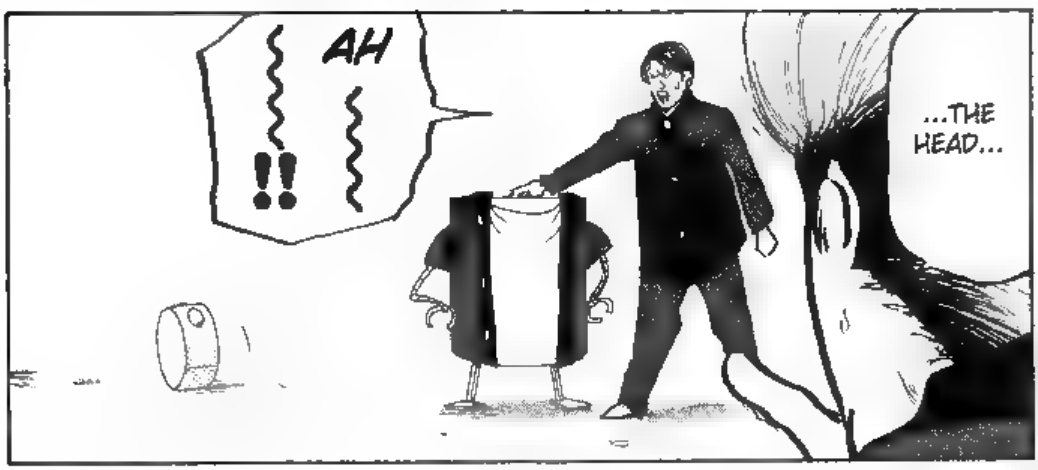
AS I THOUGHT, HE'S IN A DIFFERENT LEAGUE FROM THE OTHERS. HE REALLY IS THE BOSS...
EVER SINCE I'VE BEEN IN CRO-HIGH, I'VE BEEN LOOKING UP TO HIM.

YOSHIE, THAT'S ENOUGH...
AND YOU CAN TELL IT'S SO JUST FROM ONE LOOK.

AREN'T YOU A LITTLE TOO HUNG UP ON...
FORGET IT, JUST TALK ABOUT GORILLAS AS MUCH AS YOU FANCY.
OK, OK, I UNDERSTAND.
WHY NOT JUST PUT ASIDE THE TOPIC ABOUT THE GORILLA FOR A BIT? I HOPE YOU CAN SEE THINGS FROM MY PERSPECTIVE....
AS A SENIOR IN THIS SCHOOL, I SPECIALLY WENT OUT OF MY WAY TO FIND YOU GUYS ALL FOR THE SAKE OF DISCUSSING ABOUT THE FUTURES OF THIS SCHOOL, AND THUS YOUR WELL-BEING AS WELL, RIGHT?
WHAT ?
REALLY ?
I G-GOT IT! LET'S HELP IN IMPROVING THIS SCHOOL FOR THE BETTER!
IS THAT SO...?
IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE FACT THAT MY MOOD IS NOW IN THE GUTTERS, I MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO HELP ITOU COME UP WITH SOME IDEAS FOR HIS ISSUES...
AH, OH... OK, WE'LL DO IT...
THAT MISTAK- ING OF IDENTI- TY THING IS REALLY DRIV- ING ME NUTS RIGHT NOW SO PLEASE DON'T ANTAOGNIZE E ANYMORE!
OR ELSE THAT GORILLA ISSUE WILL NEVER GET SETTLED PROPERLY.
OH SHUT UP.

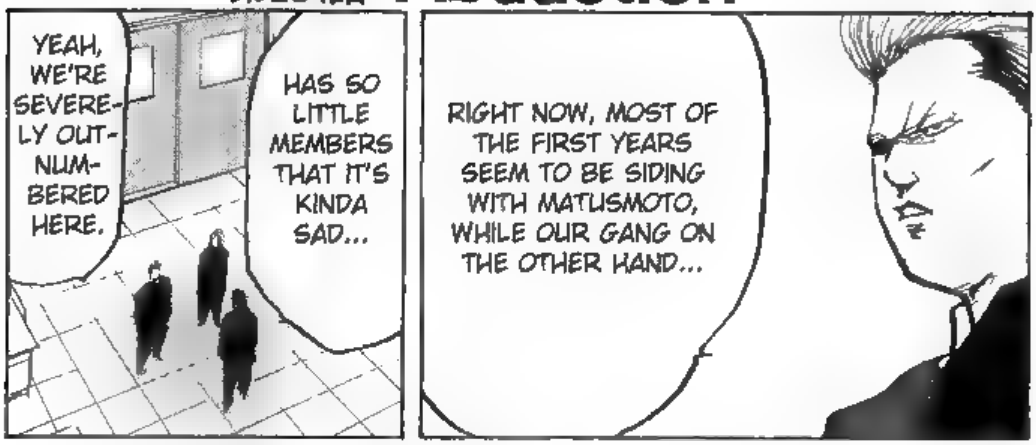
. . . . .
LET'S START BY SWEEPING THE SCHOOL GROUND.
SO... WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
HOW DOES THAT HELP IMPROVE THE SCHOOL?
YES?
UH, EXCUSE ME...
LOOK, YOSHIE... IF THE OTHER FIRST YEARS SAW US AT IT, WOULDN'T THEY BE TOUCHED BY IT TOO? WOULD THEY THEN NOT BE MOTIVATED TO DO SO AS WELL?
WHAT'S THE POINT IF IT'S JUST US DOING IT?
I MEAN, YEAH, SWEEPING THE FLOOR IS A GOOD THING BUT...
HUH?
. . . . . .
YEAH, NOBODY'S GONNA NOTICE US.
BUT...THERE'S NOBODY ELSE AROUND RIGHT NOW...
Everyone's gone home...

THERE JUST NEED TO BE SOMEONE TO NOTICE RIGHT?
AL-RIGHT,
NO... THAT'S JUST THE TRUTH....
MY GOODNESS, WHAT'S WITH YOU AND YOUR CONSTANT NITPICKING?
I GOT IT, I SAID!
WAIT, IT'S NOT THE GORILLA RIGHT, IS IT?
HOLD ON, I'LL GET SOMEONE OVER!
AS LONG AS THERE'S ACTUALLY SOMEONE AROUND TO SEE US AND IT'LL BE ENOUGH RIGHT?
. . . . . .
OK, HERE'S SOME-ONE.
I DIDN'T EVEN SAY...
THIS IS NOT A "SOMETHING" BUT "SOMEONE"!
WHAT DID YOU SAY!? ENOUGH WITH THE WEIRD RETORTS WILL YOU!!
...UH... "SOME-ONE"?



KAMIYAMA IS THE WORST OF THE BUNCH.

第284話 Abduction


YEAH, WE'RE SEVERELY OUTNUMBERED HERE.
HAS SO LITTLE MEMBERS THAT IT'S KINDA SAD...
RIGHT NOW, MOST OF THE FIRST YEARS SEEM TO BE SIDING WITH MATUSMOTO, WHILE OUR GANG ON THE OTHER HAND...

THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY UNDERLINGS MATSUMOTO'S GOT, WE'LL STILL GIVE OUR ALL AND FIGHT IT OUT!
HOWEVER! SINCE WE'VE DECIDED TO FIGHT FOR ITOU TO BE THE BOSS,

. . . . . .

UGH
NISHI-YAMA!? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

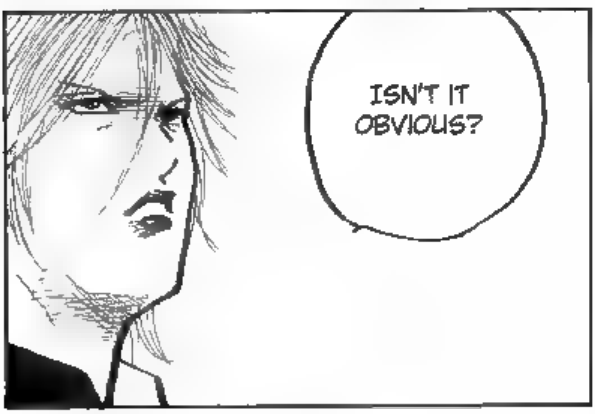
WHA-!?

WHAT...
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY!?

B-BY... MATSUMO-TO'S UN-ERLINGS...
I-ITOU'S... BEEN TAKEN AWAY

WHEN WE GOT AMBUSHED...
I... I WAS WITH ITOU... AND TWO OTHER GUYS... J-JUST CHILLING AT THE... STATION...
WE GOTTO HURRY AND BRING HIM TO THE INFIRMARY!
THAT'S ENOUGH DUDE!
S-SORRY GUYS, I MESSED UP...
FUCK! LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO GO AND RAID MATSUMOTO'S HIDEOUT!
TO THINK THAT ITOU GOT TAKEN AWAY ...!!
HOW CAN THIS BE!
CALM DOWN FOR BIT!
BUT THEN WHAT THE HELL ARE WE SUPPOSE TO DO!
DON'T BE STUPID! HIS UNDERLINGS AREN'T TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY! THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN WIN IF IT'S JUST THE FEW OF US!

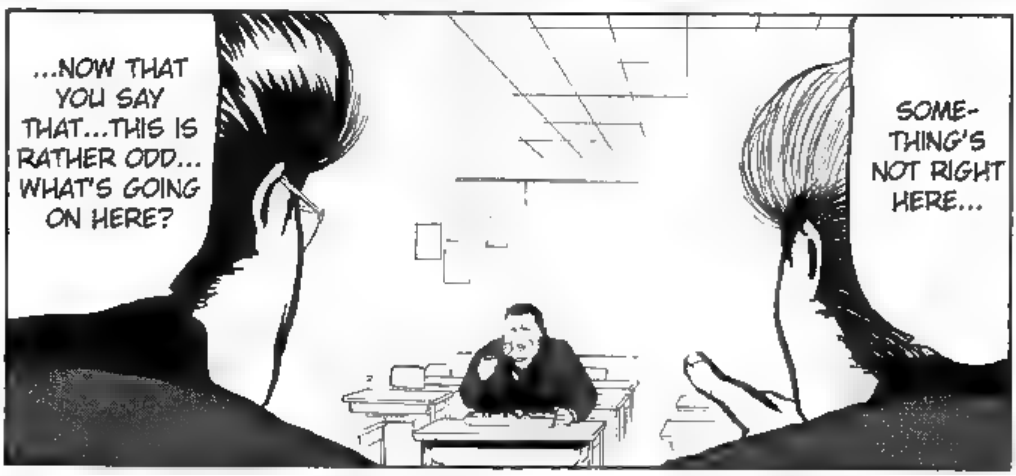
AND THAT WE CAN'T JUST STAND BY AND DO NOTHING...
IT'S TRUE THAT BASED ON OUR CURRENT FORCES, WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO WIN


ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?

SO WHAT NOW!?

AH! YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT!
LET'S DISCUSS THIS WITH ITOU FIRST.

...HANG ON...


...NOW THAT YOU SAY THAT...THIS IS RATHER ODD... WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
SOME-THING'S NOT RIGHT HERE...

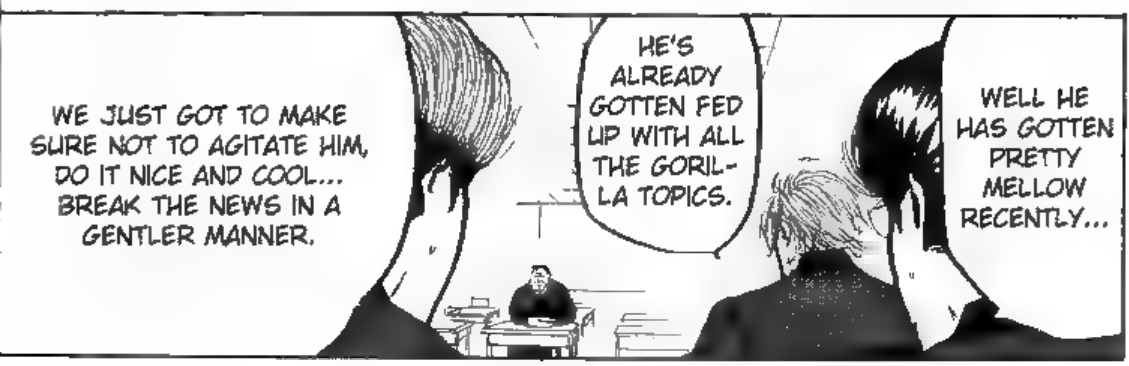
...YOU KNOW,
"THAT GUY" ...?
IT'S PROBABLY "THAT GUY" WHO GOT TAKEN AWAY.
THIS IS JUST MY CONJECTURE BUT

THAT ONE ...!!
AH !!
THAT ONE.

BUT THEN AGAIN...
GIVE ME A BREAK...
IT WAS A MIX-UP AGAIN...
... IF EVEN HIS OWN UNDERLING MESSED UP, IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT THE OTHERS ARE GETTING IT WRONG TOO...
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
THE FACT THAT IT'S THE GORILLA THAT YAMANISHI'S HANGING OUT WITH...
TO PUT IT SIMPLY,
ANYWAY, THERE'S NO NEED TO MUDDLE IT FURTHER NOW.
CRUD, THIS ISSUE IS GETTING TOO MUCH FOR ME TO HANDLE...
NO... WE CAN'T DON THAT, YOU KNOW !?
SO UH, DO WE JUST TAKE IT AS NOTHING HAS HAPPENED ?
YEAH... THAT'S TRUE...
A GORILLA JUST GOT TAKEN AWAY, THAT'S ALL.

I'M AFRAID HE MAY BE TAKING THE CHANCE TO SPREAD ABOUT HOW HE "MANAGED TO CAPTURE ITOU" AND THAT HE "BEAT THE SHIT OUT OF HIM WITH EASE"...
A SHOWY BRAGGART LIKE MATSUMOTO,

B-BUT HOW DO WE ACTUALLY BREAK THE NEWS TO HIM...?
SO WE BETTER JUST TELL HIM THE TRUTH NOW.
IF THAT'S THE CASE IT'LL BE BAD IF THE STORY REACHES ITOU,
He'll be in for a nasty shock.

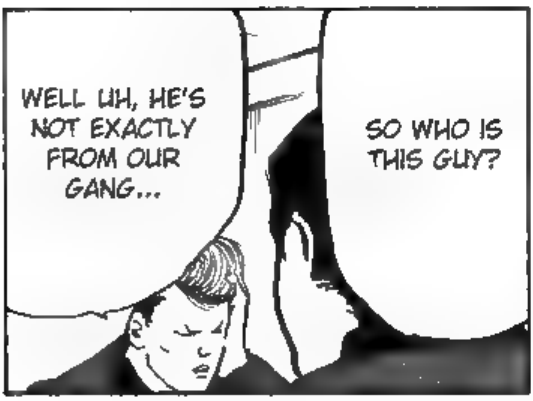

WE JUST GOT TO MAKE SURE NOT TO AGITATE HIM, DO IT NICE AND COOL... BREAK THE NEWS IN A GENTLER MANNER.
HE'S ALREADY GOTTEN FED UP WITH ALL THE GORIL-LA TOPICS.
WELL HE HAS GOTTEN PRETTY MELLOW RECENTLY...

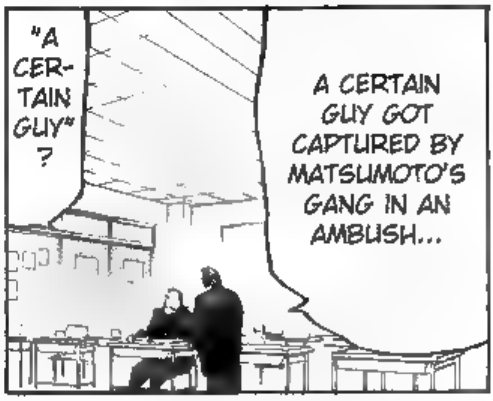
. . . .

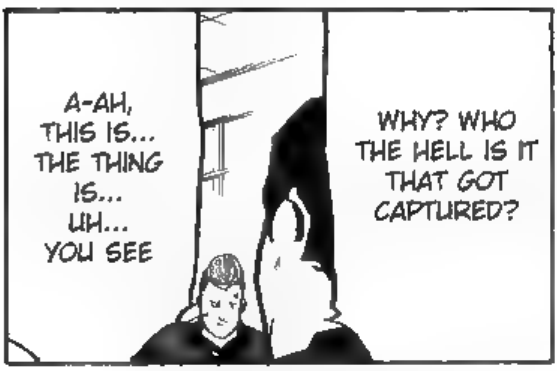
OH- OK!
YES, DO IT IN A MORE INDIRECT WAY. DON'T OUTRIGHT MENTION THINGS LIKE GORILLAS OR BANANAS!

HOW DO I SAY THIS.... THE TRUTH IS,

HMM?
UH, ITOU...


WELL UH, HE'S NOT EXACTLY FROM OUR GANG...
SO WHO IS THIS GUY?


"A CER-TAIN GUY"?
A CERTAIN GUY GOT CAPTURED BY MATSUMOTO'S GANG IN AN AMBUSH...


A-AH, THIS IS... THE THING IS... UH... YOU SEE
WHY? WHO THE HELL IS IT THAT GOT CAPTURED?

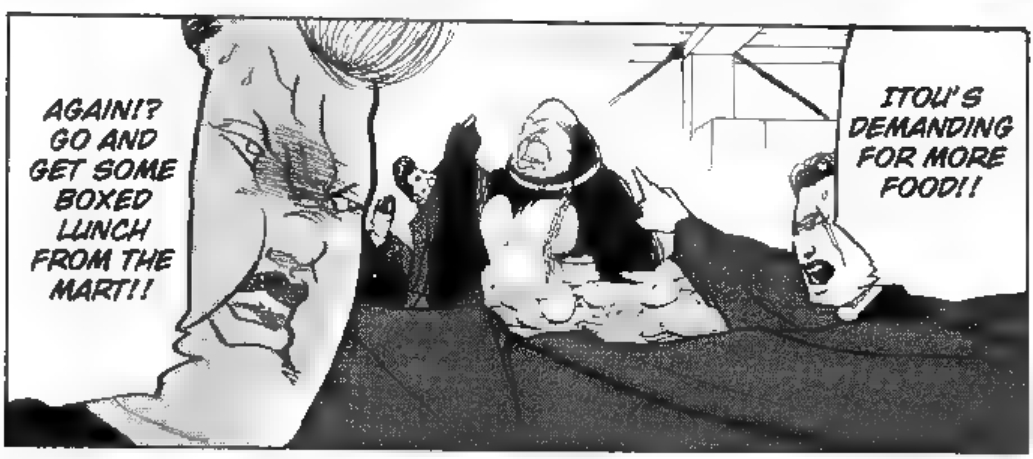
UH NO, IT'S NOT... REALLY... UH, WE CAN'T JUST IGNORE HIM...
HUH? IF HE'S NOT ONE OF OURS, THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER US.

Too Blunt!!
IT'S THE GORILLA WHO GOT CAPTURED.

ITOU...
GIVE ME A BREAK! HOW'S THE GORILLA ANY OF MY CONCERN!
N-NOT AGAIN! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS!
NO WAY IN HELL WOULD THE GORILLA BE PUTTING ON A UNIFORM!
...THAT'S PRETTY MUCH THE END OF IT FOR YOU.
I DON'T WANT TO PUSH THIS FURTHER BUT...IF THIS GOES ON, THE GORILLA MAY REALLY REPLACE YOU. IF THERE COMES A DAY WHEN THE GORILLA PUTS ON A UNIFORM AS WELL THEN...
ITOU, YOU ON THE OTHER HAND, WOULD BE REMOVING YOUR UNIFORM RIGHT?
WELL, THAT'S TRUE BUT...
LIKE SAY, IN SUMMER YOU MAY ONLY BE WEARING A T-SHIRT OR MAYBE NOT WEAR AT ALL IF IT'S REALLY HOT
FUCK... THIS IS...
WHAT
!?

THEN AGAIN... IT DOESN'T SOLVE ANYTHING. WAIT, DOESN'T THIS MAKE A GOOD CHANCE FOR YOU TO SETTLE THE ISSUE BETWEEN YOU, MATSUMOTO AND THE GORILLA ONCE AND FOR ALL!
AVOID THE GORILLA, YOU SAY ...?
AT THIS RATE, I'M AFRAID AVOIDING THE GORILLA IS THE ONLY THING THAT CAN BE DONE.
ITOU...
YOSHIE, YOU'RE RIGHT! I'M NOT GOING TO RUN AWAY. I'LL FACE THIS CHALLENGE ONCE AND FOR ALL.
. . . . . .
YEAH !!
OK! NOW, TIME TO SPLIT UP TO SEARCH FOR THAT GORILLA!
HMM?
IF IT'S IN THE NEIGH-BOUR-HOOD, IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD TO FIND...
DAMN, WHERE THE HELL COULD IT BE?

I'VE FOUND IT!
IT'S BEEN CAGED IN!
HELLO ?
IT'S ME, MORIYAMA!
THIS SEEMS LIKE THE PLACE...
MORIYAMA IS AT . THIS PALACE?
SO HURRY OVER NOW, WILL YOU!
RIGHT, GIVE US THE LOCATION, WE'LL HEAD THERE NOW!
LOOK !!
HERE IT IS!!
OVER HERE, GUYS!!
MORI- YAMA!



MATSUMOTO SURE IS ATTENTIVE.

第285話 DEAD OR ALIVE

UH YEAH, THERE'S SOMETHING WE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS WITH YOU.
SO, WHAT'S UP?

OH, ITOU'S BEEN PLAYING TRUANT, YOU SAY?

THE TRUTH IS, ITOU HASN'T BEEN COMING TO SCHOOL RECENTLY.

...AH! AAAH, HIM!!
UHM, YOU KNOW HIM DON'T YOU... THE GUY WHO LOOKS... LIKE A GORILLA, THAT ONE...

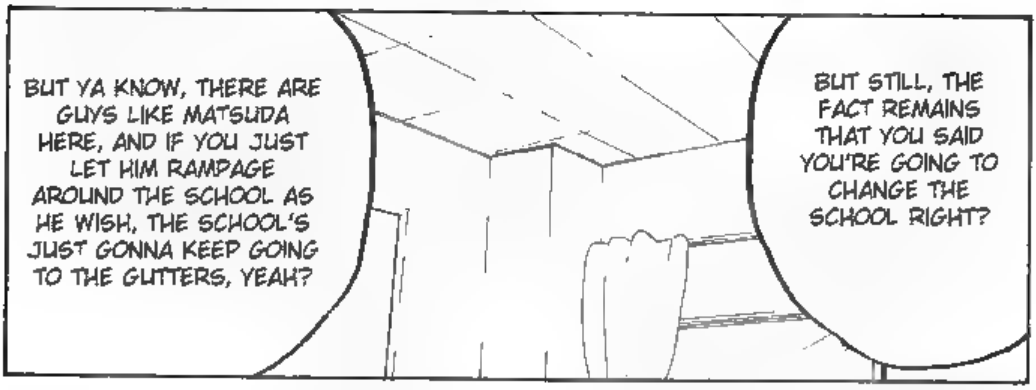
WHAT?
...BY THE WAY, WHO IS ITOU?

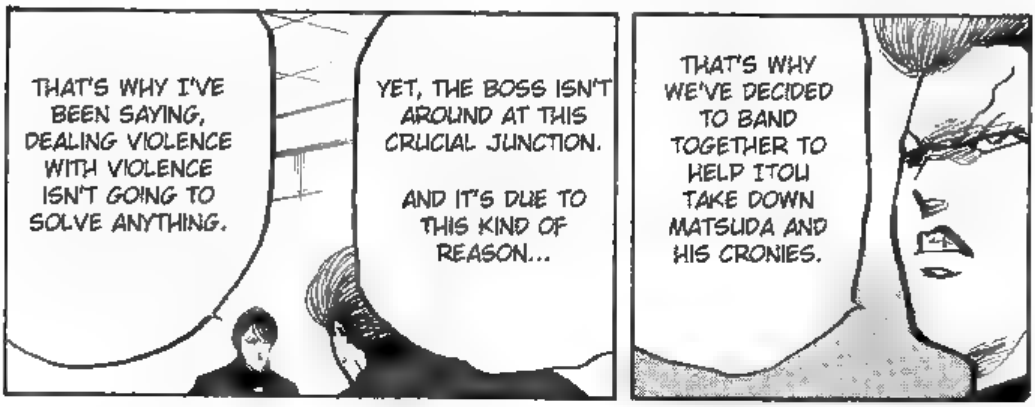
WELL, THAT'S BE-CAUSE...
SO, WHY ISN'T HE COMING?

REMEM-BER HIS NAME, WILL YA...
WHAT THE HECK, YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO EARLIER. I'D HAVE KNOWN RIGHT AWAY.

HMMM, I SEE...
HE'S HAD IT WITH BEING MISTAKEN WITH THE GORILLA IN SCHOOL.
SINCE HE HIMSELF SAID HE DOESN'T WANT TO COME TO SCHOOL, THEN IT REALLY CAN'T BE HELPED.
AREN'T YOU BEING TOO APATHETIC ABOUT THIS!?
THEN THAT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT...
AND YOU WERE SO CONFIDENT IN SAYING HOW YOU WON'T LET ANYONE DROP OUT!
DIDN'T YOU SAY SOME-THING ABOUT IMPROVING THE SCHOOL !?
EH?
WHOA, HOLD ON KAMIYAMA, ISN'T THAT DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOU'VE SAID PREVIOUSLY !?
IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO RESPECT THE WISHES OF THE INDIVIDUALS.
INDEED. THOUGH I DID SAY THAT,

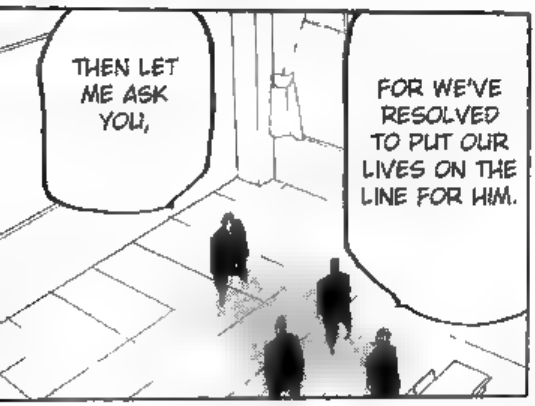
AH WELL, THAT MAY BE SO...
IF IT WAS ME, I'D WANT TO QUIT SCHOOL TOO.
SOUNDS LIKE A REALLY PERSUASIVE REASON.
NOT WANTING TO COME TO SCHOOL OUT OF AN AVERSION FROM BEING MISTAKEN FROM A GORILLA


BUT YA KNOW, THERE ARE GUYS LIKE MATSUDA HERE, AND IF YOU JUST LET HIM RAMPAGE AROUND THE SCHOOL AS HE WISH, THE SCHOOL'S JUST GONNA KEEP GOING TO THE GUTTERS, YEAH?
BUT STILL, THE FACT REMAINS THAT YOU SAID YOU'RE GOING TO CHANGE THE SCHOOL RIGHT?


THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN SAYING, DEALING VIOLENCE WITH VIOLENCE ISN'T GOING TO SOLVE ANYTHING.
YET, THE BOSS ISN'T AROUND AT THIS CRUCIAL JUNCTION.
AND IT'S DUE TO THIS KIND OF REASON...
THAT'S WHY WE'VE DECIDED TO BAND TOGETHER TO HELP ITOU TAKE DOWN MATSUDA AND HIS CRONIES.

ALL YOU GUYS EVER SAY IS ITOU THIS AND ITOU... ARE YOU GUYS NOT ABLE TO DO ANYTHING WITHOUT HIM AROUND?
FURTHER-MORE,

SUCH FOOLISH-NESS.
ITOU'S WORDS ARE ABSOLUTE TO US.
WE ARE HIS UNDERLINGS AFTER ALL.

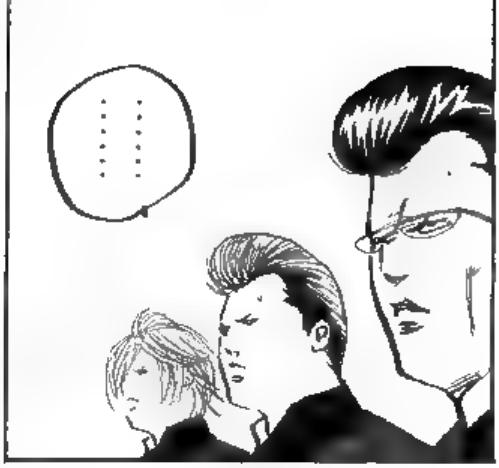

THEN LET ME ASK YOU,
FOR WE'VE RESOLVED TO PUT OUR LIVES ON THE LINE FOR HIM.

SAY WHAT YOU WANT
THIS WAY, YOU'RE NOTHING MORE THAN MERE PUPPETS DANCING ON ITOU'S STRINGS.

ITOU TOLD YOU TO GO AND DIE?
WOULD YOU REALLY GO AND DO IT?
WHAT IF

CUT THE CRAP AND JUST ANSWER.
THAT'S A REALLY GRADE SCHOOLER TYPE OF QUESTION.

SEE! I KNEW IT!
TELLING US TO DIES IS A LITTLE TOO...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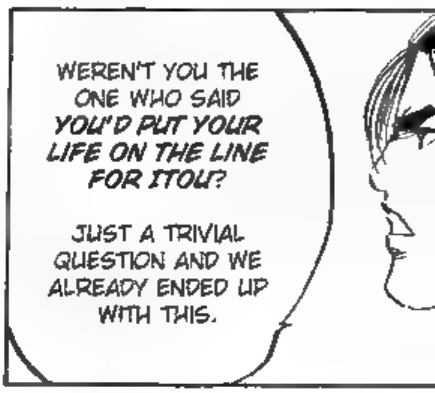
I SAY, KAMIYAMA, AREN'T YOUR REASONING GETTING MORE AND MORE ABSURD?
THAT'S TOO HARSH, DON'T YOU THINK...
IT'S ALL BARK AND NO BITE. IN THE END IT'S ALL ABOUT YOURSELVES.

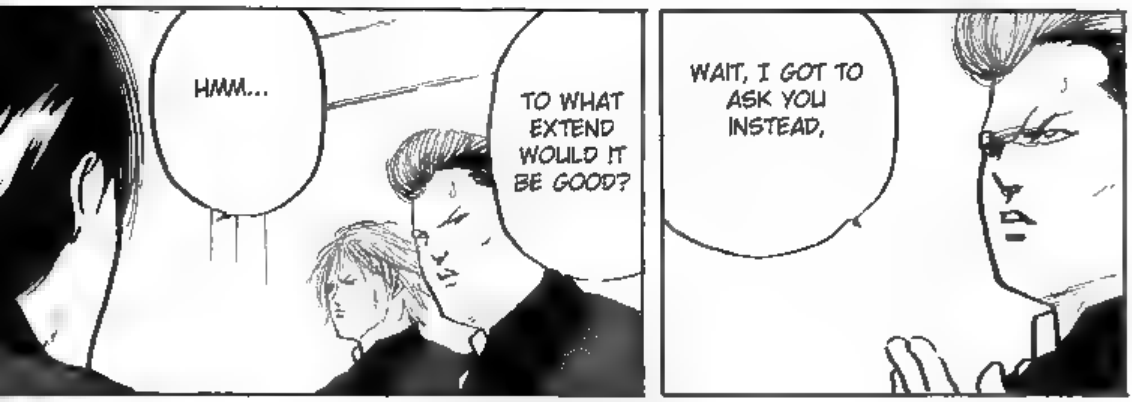
FIGHTING? WHO CAN'T DO THAT?
LIKE FIGHTING. WE'RE ADEPT AT THAT.
NO, WE'LL DO IT AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T INVOLVE DYING.


WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO SAID *YOU'D PUT YOUR LIFE ON THE LINE FOR ITOU*?
JUST A TRIVIAL QUESTION AND WE ALREADY ENDED UP WITH THIS.

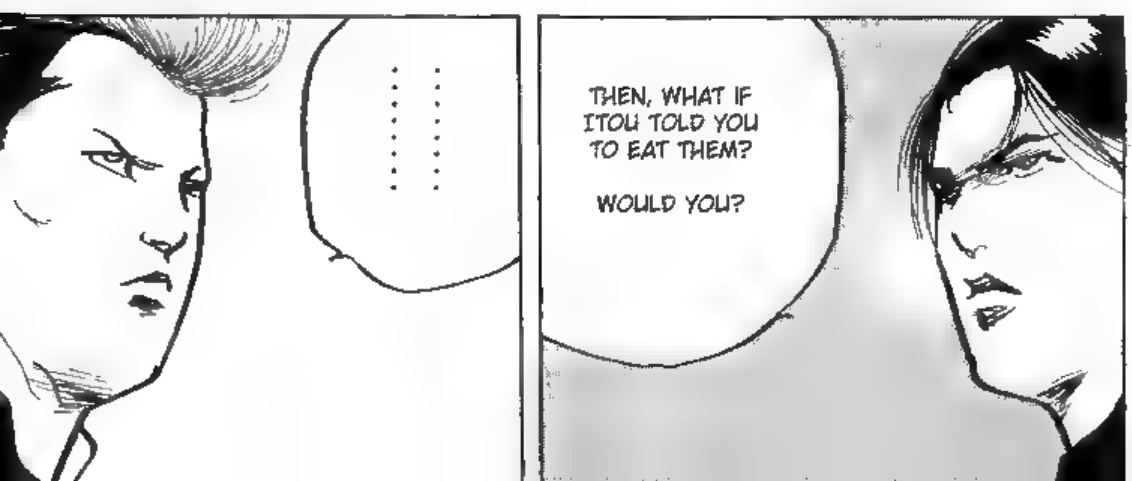
SORRY...
OK...
ALRIGHT, FINE, I'LL TAKE A FEW STEPS BACK.

IT'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE. THEN, IT'LL *MEAN* SOMETHING.

WELL, PUTTING ASIDE SOMETHING AS AMBIGUOUS AS FIGHTS...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
SO LET ME ASK YOU, TO WHAT EXTEND DO YOU OBEY HIS ORDERS?


HMM...
TO WHAT EXTEND WOULD IT BE GOOD?
WAIT, I GOT TO ASK YOU INSTEAD,

I HATE SHIITAKE MUSHROOMS,
WHAT ABOUT IT?
HUH?
YOSHIE, IS THERE ANY FOOD YOU HATE?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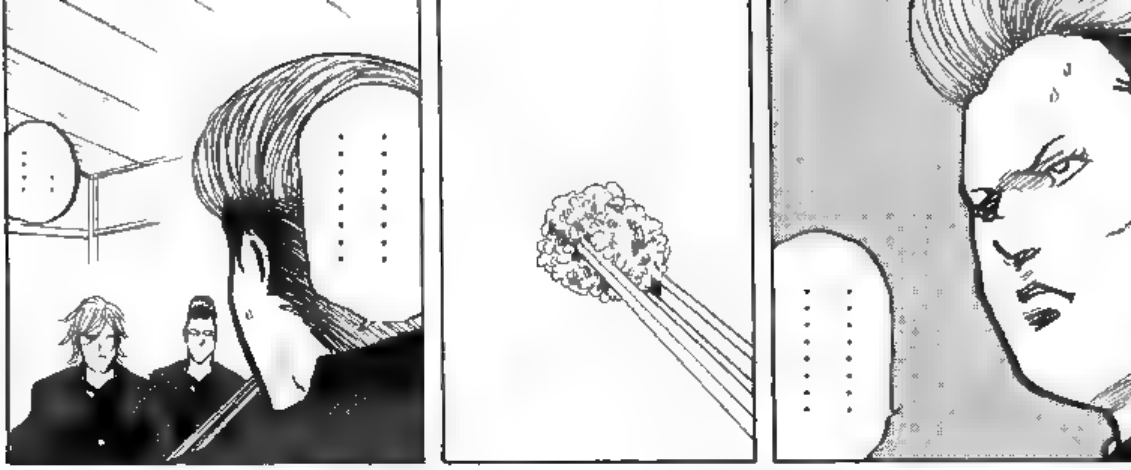
THEN, WHAT IF ITOU TOLD YOU TO EAT THEM?
WOULD YOU?

BUT I REALLY CAN'T HANDLE SHIITAKES, JUST THIS ONE I REALLY CAN'T...
DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY THAT OTHER THAN DYING, EVERYTHING ELSE IS FINE? NOW YOU SAY YOU CAN'T HANDLE SHIITAKES EITHER.
WHAT, NO GO !?
UH, SHIITAKES ARE...
OH, GIVE ME A BREAK.
BUT THE TASTE OF SHIITAKES MAKES ME WANNA PUKE...
ALL I KEEP HEARING SINCE JUST NOW IS NO TO THIS AND NO TO THAT.
NO, YOU REALLY ARE TOO MUCH.
OK THEN, LET'S MAKE SOME ADJUSTMENTS.
SORRY...
DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT YOU CAN SUPPORT ITOU WITH THAT KIND OF RESOLVE OF YOURS?
トン トン
THEN ALLOW ME TO CHOP THE MUSHROOMS INTO LITTLE PIECES.
UH, YEAH...
YOU CAN'T HANDLE SHIITAKES RIGHT?

HMM...
OH, THIS IS THE TACTIC OFTEN USED FOR KIDS...
THIS SHOULD DO.
AND THEN HAVE IT MIXED WITH RICE.
MAEDA'S HOUSE
VERY WELL, I'LL COOK UP A GOOD MEAL FOR YOU GUYS!
SHOULD BE FINE THIS WAY...
WE'LL HELP OURSELVES TO THE FOOD THEN
IT'S DONE.
.....
I'm pretty proud of my cooking skills
HMM, EVEN YOSHIE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE THIS.
AH! DELICIOUS!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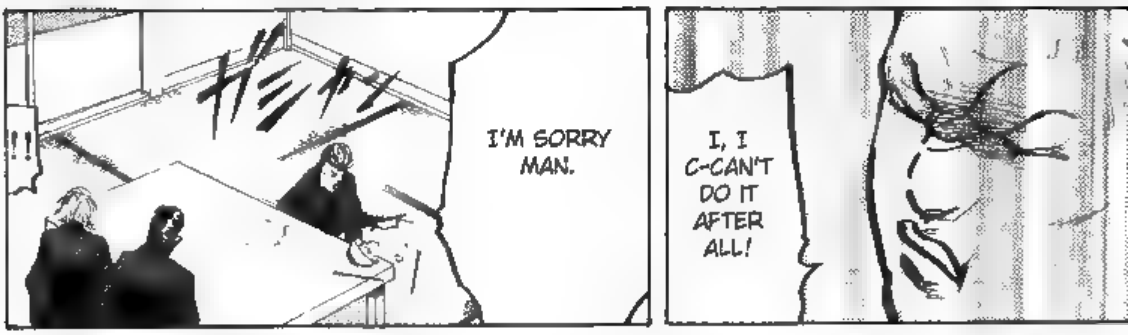
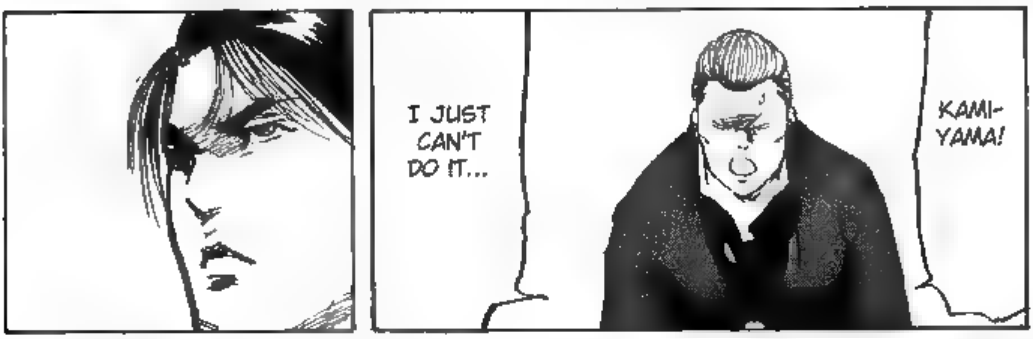
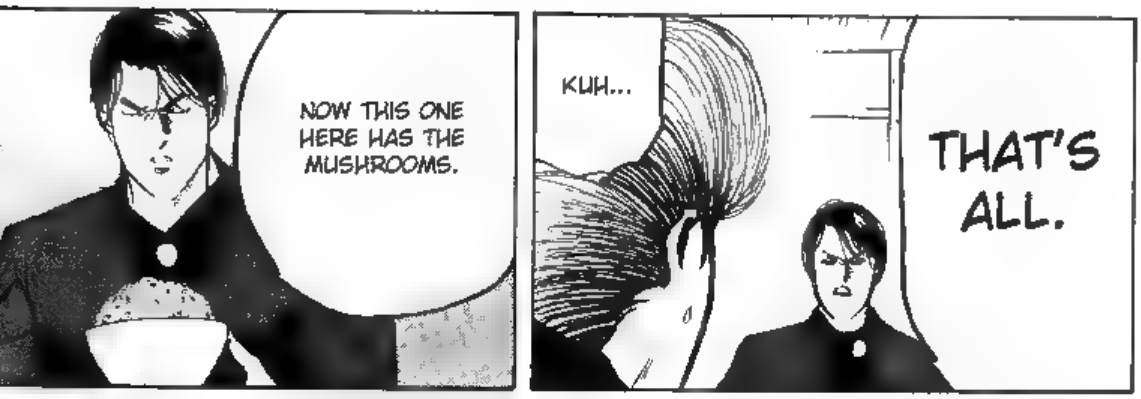
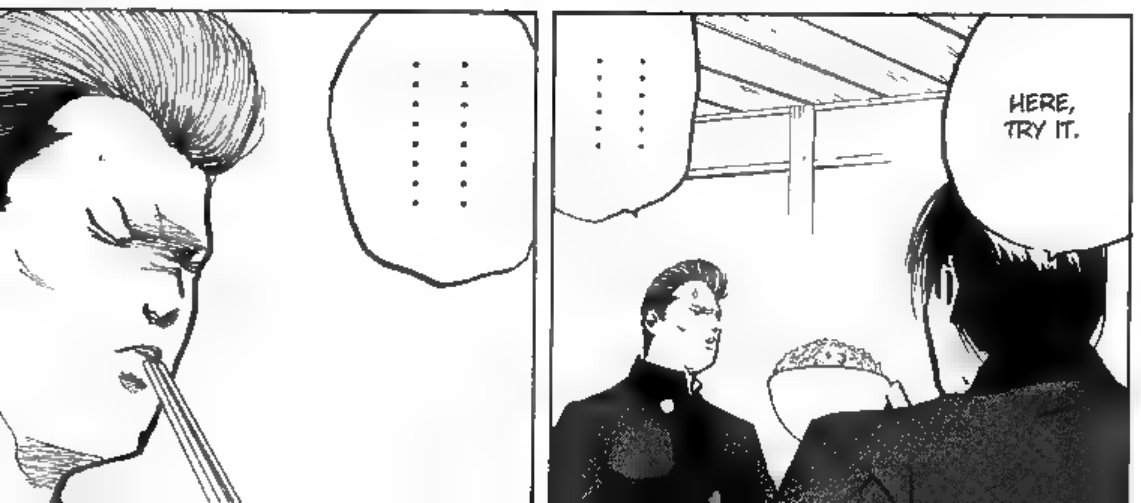

!!
I'M SORRY MAN.
I, I C-CAN'T DO IT AFTER ALL!


I JUST CAN'T DO IT...
KAMI-YAMA!

THE HELL DID YOU DO THAT FOR!?
WHAT THE!?
UGH!

〈掲載／週刊少年マガジン2005年第9号・第13号・第29号 休載 第24号・第22・23合併号〉





【第14巻★おわり】

IT WAS ALL POINTLESS NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT.

あなたは、この本を読んで、どのような感想をおもちになりましたか。

このほかに、「講談社コミックス」の中で、どんな本を読まれましたか。

このつぎには、どんな作家の、どんなまんがを読みたいとお考えですか。

コミックス編集の参考にさせていただきたいと思います。「読後の感想」と合わせて、左記のところあてにお知らせください。

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「講談社コミックス」編集部

講談社コミックス　三五六一巻
魁!!クロマティ高校 14
2005年8月17日　第1刷発行
定価はカバーに表示してあります。

著者　野中英次
発行者　五十嵐隆夫
発行所　株式会社講談社
東京都文京区音羽二―一二―二一
（郵便番号一一二―八〇〇一）
編集部（03）五三九五―三四五九
販売部（03）五三九五―三六〇八

印刷所　株式会社廣済堂
製本所　誠和製本株式会社

N.D.C. 726　186p　18cm

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ISBN4-06-363561-9
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あの藤本が土下座でお願い!?

※この人は出演しません。

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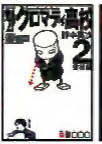

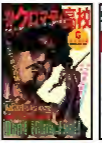

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